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UPPER EGYPT POWER PLANTS RECEIVE FUNDING

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN MAIL in English 5 Mar 83 p 2

[Text] The Minister of Energy, Mr Maher Abaza yesterday announced that LE 80 million will be set aside to finance a number of power projects in the governorates of Upper Egypt. The projects are to provide energy for new industries in the region.

Mr Abaza who visited Quenna Governorate to inaugurate the new generators of El-Tobarat power station said that the capacity of the station has increased to 100 megawatts per hour. He added that a similar expansion project will soon be implemented at Assiut and Naga Hammadi stations.

The Minister also said that the power generating station of the High Dam will be developed to increase its capacity by about 150,000 kilowatts a project which will be carried out in collaboration with the United States the Soviet Union and France during the next five years.

Meanwhile the Ministry of Energy has worked out a plan to electrify the barrages of Esna Nagga Hammadi and Assiut as well as to establish small power generating stations on the main irrigation canals in collaboration with consultant offices from Sweden Canada and Italy said the minister.

He added that an Italian consultancy firm has already started a feasibility study on electrifying the Assiut and Nagaa Hammadi barrages and building two power generating stations with a capacity of 120 megawatts per hour a project which is expected to cost LE 200 million.

Experts from the Ministries of Energy and Irrigation have started talks with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on financing the project which will be completed within five years.

Meanwhile said the Minister, a Swedish consultancy firm is now making a feasibility study about establishing a new barrage over the Nile at Esna. The barrage will have a power generating station with a capacity of 80 megawatts per hour and will cost LE 280 million.

Later on the minister attended a people's rally held in Quenna to discuss the governorate's energy problems. The rally was also attended by the Governor of Quenna Mr Abdul Halim el-Seidi.--MSS

CSO: 4500/141

BRIEFS

NORTH SINAI TACKLES WATER SHORTAGE--The shortage of drinking water in North Sinai Governorate will be partially solved before the end of the month as a pipe line will bring Nile water to Beer el-Ein on the north coast of the governorate said the Governor of North Sinai, Mr Monir Shash. The governor also said that two sea water desalination have already been established at Arish to produce 1,600 cubic metres of drinking water a day. Meanwhile, Mr El-Said El-Gabar, Chairman of North Sinai Development Agency, said that another three desalination units with a total capacity of 1,200 cubic metres a day, will be established at El-Masaaaid and El-Salam. Also ten smaller units will be built along the north coast to cover the needs of people visiting the governorate during summer. The Chairman of the Agency added that a second pipe line with a diameter of 700 mm will be put between El-Qantara and Arish during the next three years to provide the city with 20,000 cubic metres of Nile Water a day in order to use other sources of water for irrigation.

GSS [Text] [Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 8 Mar 83 p 2]

CSO: 4500/141

NATION REFUSES SANCTUARY TO UGANDAN INSURGENTS

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 26 Feb 83 p 1

[Article by A. Nakendo]

[Text] Southern Sudan will not give sanctuary to Uganda's enemies, the Sudanese Vice President, Mr Joseph Lagu, said here today.

He added the government in the Southern Sudan has taken drastic measures to seal off any insecurity infiltrations at her border with Uganda.

Mr Lagu was holding talks with Vice President Paulo Muwanga, who called on him at his office at the Peoples Place, here.

The Sudanese Vice President, affirmed that "we in the South must strive to see that there is stability in Uganda for our economic prosperity."

He assured the government and the people of Uganda that their government will always provide possible assistance towards the restoration of peace and stability in the country.

He was optimistic that the present leadership in Uganda will be able to bring back the country's glory saying: "Even in the southern Sudan where we experienced instability for 17 years, peace has now been restored."

Commenting on Ugandan refugees in southern Sudan, Mr Lagu assured that his government was doing its best not to allow them to cause problems to Uganda.

He said that all those refugees who were former Amin's soldiers have been moved far away from the border and all those who had entered the Sudan with guns, had them removed and kept in safe custody.

"We shall encourage them to live peacefully while the two governments make final preparations to return them home," he said.

Vice President Muwanga thanked Mr Lagu for the assurances. "Yours has not been a mere expression of desire that there should be peace and stability in Uganda," he said adding:

"When we needed material assistance we got it in abundance. The unanimity between our sister states need not be overemphasized."

Mr Muwanga called for stronger measures to tighten the existing relations between the two countries and noted that any slight destabilisation of the region will have far reaching effects on the zone.

The Vice President paid glowing tribute to the Sudanese government for not allowing Uganda's detractors a base in their country.

"I am very hopeful, this spirit will continue because it is a venture we must support and invest in," he said.

The Southern Sudanese President of the High Executive Council, Mr James Joseph Tombura, pledged that his government in the south will strive to see that there was peace and stability at the two borders.

The meeting was also attended by the members of Uganda's delegation to the fourth National Sudanese Socialist Union which opens here tomorrow.

SO: 4500/145

FIXED MONTHLY INCREASE IN COLA PROPOSED AS AID TO AILING ECONOMY

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Mar 83 p 6

[Article by David Krivine]

[Text] FOR ISRAEL, 1982 was a lousy year in terms of economic performance —, and nobody exactly knows why. The national budget for 1983 suggests that things will not be much better this year. If the experts really understood what had gone wrong, the government would be able to apply more effective remedies. At the moment all are groping in a fog.

Aridor tried experiments when he first became Finance Minister. He decided to give the citizenry a good time. That was in 1981: he developed a theory which helped his party win the elections. The theory was that if he reduced the sales tax, thus reducing prices — he would reduce inflation.

The remedy was a painless one; too painless. It worked for a bit, till past election time. During 1982 the bill came up for payment. Inflation soared back to its previous peak, and the trade deficit widened by \$1 billion.

Israelis dislike statistics, but this one is no joke.

Back in 1975 the deficit came to 32.8 per cent of imports. Afterwards there was a steady improvement: 23 per cent in 1976, 19 per cent in 1977 and 1978, a bad hiccup in 1979 (up to 24 per cent) but down again to 17.5 per cent in 1980, and 16.5 per cent in 1981.

In 1982 the deficit shot back to 23 per cent, from \$2.2b. to \$3.2b. Instead of moving towards independence, we have taken a reverse step in the direction of continued economic bondage.

This year Aridor is having another try. He has learnt his lesson, his policies are serious now. Serious, but not drastic. The twelve months ahead will not show an improvement over 1982 to any significant extent. Exports will rise by five per cent; however, the trade deficit will widen as stated.

There is enough incoming capital to bridge the gap, and Israel's foreign currency reserves are to remain unchanged at approximately \$3b. However the foreign debt will swell further, from \$20.3b. to a forbidding \$22b.

THERE MUST BE something to cause this stagnation — what is it? The sickness is not peculiar to Israel, it is worldwide. Remedies are being applied abroad — unsuccessfully; which does not prevent Israel's economists from recommending those same prescriptions, although they are unlikely to be more successful here.

The disease that the economists blame for our current ailments is inflation. If only we can get rid of that, growth will be restored, exports will boom, the trade gap will narrow, and so on. Why the act of diminishing the inflation of the shekel from 130 per cent to 80 per cent or less should achieve such estimable results is not explained.

But more than that: economists do not seem to have any effective method of reducing the inflation they so ardently deplore. The policy

they demand is that the government eliminate its budget deficit.

Maybe it should, but the problem will not be solved so easily. In Andor's last budget speech, some telling facts came to light. The deficit in the government's accounts declined from 14 per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP) in 1977 to 10 per cent in 1978 and eight per cent in 1980. During those same years inflation rose from 42 per cent to 48 per cent and 132 per cent.

In 1981 the budget deficit gaped wider to 15 per cent — and inflation fell to 101.5 per cent. The two graphs move independently.

There does not have to be a connection. Israel is an open economy, so monetary prodigality breeds its own corrective. If the government overspends and thus accelerates inflation, the economy should respond by sucking in more imports, thus deflating the inflation.

The extra imports came in all right during 1982, but the inflation sailed on undisturbed.

Evidently the explanation of our ills lies elsewhere, there must be other factors causing prices to rise. Andor (with the aid of his advisers) has thought up a new theory, an ingenious one this time. The underlying problem is, he reveals, "circulatory inflation."

What happens is that one price rise causes another. He has observed, for example, that when subsidies are cut on basic commodities by X per cent, the price of other commodities (non-subsidized) tends to rise by X per cent too.

Or if the cost of electricity goes up by Y per cent, industrialists feel impelled to put up the price of their finished product by Y per cent, though electricity is only one of their inputs. The same goes for restaurateurs faced with a price rise of Z per cent in cooking oil: up goes their whole menu by Z per cent.

In defence of these people it can be said (and Andor says it) that they are trying anxiously to anticipate the price spiral which everybody fears. The rise in the price of electricity (or cooking oil for that matter) pushes up the cost-of-living index, which pushes up the cost-of-living allowance, which causes a devaluation, which pushes up the price of imports, and so on.

HOW TO BREAK the sequence? If you can't beat them, says the Treasury, join them. If inflation is an imitative process, with every government-sponsored price rise imitated by others — then let the government sponsor the price rise that it *wants* others to imitate.

It was decided that a desirable price rise in 1983 would be 5 per cent a month, which is respectably less than the 8-10 per cent a month we were afflicted with in 1982. All right: the Treasury will cut its subsidies by 5 per cent a month, devalue the currency by 5 per cent a month (approximately), limit the rise in the cost of credit to 5 per cent a month, and see that wages rise by no more than 5 per cent a month. The hope is that other prices will fall into line.

The problem was how to control wages. The need to do that has involved the Finance Minister in hard negotiations with the trade union movement over the cost-of-living allowance. A new arrangement was agreed under which the allowance reflects the price increase during the last three months, instead of the price increase during the last half-year.

Andor's original proposal was to put up the allowance by a fixed amount each month. Under the present dispensation it would be 5 per cent. A review made several times a year would check that wages had not fallen too far behind prices. The Histadrut would not agree. The compromise achieved still lets a slowdown in price inflation be translated into a slowdown in the allowance; which gives some hope for his anti-inflationary policies.

Will all this ambitious programme work? It may do; there may be a drop in the pace at which the index goes up. Inflation may be trimmed to 5 per cent a month — and then what? Why should that induce investors to invest, manufacturers to produce, exporters to sell? European countries have reduced their inflation to a fraction of what Israel hopes to achieve this year — yet remain afflicted with economic paralysis.

PROF. YAKIR PLESSNER, Deputy-Governor of the Bank of Israel, is one of the architects of this new "circulatory disinflation"

policy (to adapt a phrase). He clings to the economists' somewhat discredited belief in balanced budgeting, but gave it a special twist during an interview with *The Post*. He launched into an angry diatribe against the positively indecent growth of — social benefit payments.

There may be a connection between fact No. 1, that output doesn't grow, and fact No. 2, that the government — out of the kindness of its heart (and its desire for popularity) — pays people to refrain from working. Plessner strode to a bookshelf and took out a tome. "The National Insurance Institute (NII)", he read out, "paid allowances in 1981 to 49,000 disabled persons, and that does not include war disabled or the victims of work accidents, who are counted separately.

"It is an unbelievable figure," he says. "Welfare rolls are enlarged with the aid of duplicity on a grand scale." People with minor disabilities which should not impair their work capacity figure as total invalids, dependent on charity for their survival.

"See for yourself. In the single year 1981 payments to pensioners and surviving next-of-kin rose in real terms by 18 per cent, to the disabled by 17 per cent, to the unemployed by 45 per cent" (though unemployment increased that year by only 7.5 per cent).

"National Insurance payments soar each year, the number of social workers goes up — and the NII complains that the government is widening the social gap. It's a mad world."

Plessner has a point. Sponging has become a widespread activity in all countries and is doing much to discredit the welfare state. It contributes to slowing down production. But it is not the dominant cause of the existing stalemate. Whatever is to blame for the freeze in business activity, it is not a labour shortage.

How about the Lebanese war which took place last year, might not its distortions have marred the functioning of the economy?

Surprisingly enough, the answer again is no. The war outlay was covered by increased taxation — and

several times over. If a complaint from the opposition spokesman on economic affairs, Knesset member Adil Amoral, is to be believed.

The expense of the campaign amounted, it is estimated, to IS25b. (or \$1b., at the exchange rate then prevailing). Indirect costs, that is, lost production, added IS5b.

The burden of repayment will be spread over three years — IS13b. in 1982, the same in 1983, and the rest in 1984. This can be done because war industries manufacture in peacetime mainly for stock, until hostilities break out. Then the stocks run down and have to be replaced, which can take a couple of years.

The defence budget was frozen in 1982 for a five-year period. The cost of the Lebanese war was financed separately by a number of special levies which, believe it or not, raised more cash than the hostilities cost. Exports forfeited owing to the absence of labour at the front were minimal, totalling a mere \$25m.-\$30m. It is a measure of the country's economic growth since the Sinai Campaign and the Six Day War that it could carry a major military operation like this latest incursion in its stride.

THE COUNTRY'S OVERRIDING problem is this: output did not increase at all in 1982, though the population rose by nearly two per cent. Output will rise this year, but only by 1.8 per cent, which is the size of the population growth. In other words production per head went down last year and will stay at the same reduced level this year.

The trade deficit will increase, as we have said, by \$1b.; but that is in reality an understatement. Defence imports (not including the import of raw materials and machinery for Israel's defence industries) will fall by \$600m. If we take civilian commerce only, the gap between imports and exports widened by \$1.5b in 1982 and will widen by another \$1b. in 1983 — a deterioration in Israel's foreign trade of \$2.5b in 24 months.

That is appallingly bad and cannot be explained either by inflation, or by the government's budget deficit, or by the parasites who live on social benefits, or by the war in

Lebanon. The perplexing paradox is that consumption grows and production doesn't. This is admittedly a universal phenomenon, which suggests that there must be a universal explanation, not necessarily connected with purely Israeli events.

WHEN CONVENTIONAL theories are all discarded, the only one left that makes any sense is the cyclical theory. There is a time when people invest and produce and export with tremendous energy (Joseph's seven fat years in Egypt). There follows a time when they can't be bothered (the seven lean years).

Why does that see-saw effect occur? The answer lies in the field of psychology. It is like women's fashions. If word is spread that mini-dresses are in, every woman goes bare-legged, never mind how cold the weather. If long dresses become the rage, the female knee vanishes completely from sight.

The same thing happens in business. The "imitative factor" mentioned above in connection with price inflation applies here as well. As long as investing is an "in" activity, everybody invests, and a vigorous atmosphere of prosperity prevails.

If after a time rumours get around

that business expansion is a bad thing, firms promptly stop looking for customers, managements cease engaging staff, owners put their money into no-risk government bonds, and a pall of depression settles over the land.

It is as though some invisible finger were controlling a set of traffic lights. After a destructive event like a war, this unseen force switches the lights to green, and the world's industrial and commercial traffic moves forward. Some trifling episode crops up, like a big rise in the price of oil, and the unknown controller uses it as an excuse for turning the lights to red. All the economic traffic grinds obediently to a halt.

How to switch the lights back to green? That is the central economic-policy problem of the moment. It is, as stated, a problem in psychology, mass psychology. There is no reason at all why the GNP of the industrialized countries should not be increasing at the present time by 5 per cent per annum. There is no reason why Israel's GNP should not be increasing by 7 per cent per annum — 5 per cent per capita, plus a 2 per cent population growth.

It is a matter of turning on the green light. That's all.

HERZOG DISCUSSES JOB OF DIRECTOR OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Feb 83 p 7

[Article by Mark Segal]

[Text]

THERE HAVE BEEN nine army intelligence chiefs since the Israel Defence Forces were formed in 1948. Five of them ended their term being unseated. The hazards of the occupation were highlighted this week by Aluf (res.) Chaim Herzog, one of the four who completed his service without any problems.

"He filled the post twice: from 1948 to 1950 and from 1959 to 1962. He succeeded the first army intelligence chief, Isser Be'eri, who was sacked over the Tubiansky affair. When he completed his first term, he was succeeded by Benjamin Gibli who occupied the post from 1950 to 1954, when he was unseated over the Lavon affair. He was replaced by Yehoshafat Harkabi who lasted until 1959, when Ben-Gurion sacked him for a false call-up broadcast scare. Then came Herzog's second spell, and he recalls that at the changing of the guard Harkabi cautioned him "You'll find banana peels strewn all along your route."

"In 1962, Herzog became the first army intelligence chief to complete his duties in the normal course of events. The next two were equally fortunate — Meir Amit, who in 1964 became head of the Mossad, and Aharon Yariv, who held the post for nearly eight years without mishap. But Eli Zeira, who succeeded Amit in 1972, came a cropper over the Yom Kippur War and was drummed out in 1974 as a result of the Agranat Commission report. He

was followed by Shlomo Gazit, who completed his term in 1978. Then came Yehoshua Saguy.

FIVE out of nine was a high proportion by any standards, said Herzog. No other army post held such risks.

"It's a fascinating job, but a thankless one," he said. "There's a tremendous strain on one, with duty officers calling up at all hours of the day and night. I don't recall spending one undisturbed night during the six years I held the position."

Herzog, who left the army to become a lawyer before he was elected to the Knesset, has studied the Kahan Commission report closely. He noted that it had pinpointed the clear rift of opinion between military intelligence and the Mossad on the issue of Israel's relationship with the Phalange. It appeared that military intelligence had been totally disenchanted with the Phalangist connection, "while the Mossad, which bore responsibility for these contacts in Lebanon, was highly enthusiastic about them. It would seem to me that military intelligence's evaluation was brushed aside." Furthermore, while the commission accused Saguy of indifference, said Herzog, "a logical reason seems to be that in this issue he threw in the towel and did not stand up for his opinions because he realized that it was not acceptable."

Expanding on this point, Herzog

said: "I'm surprised that Saguy's legal line of defence before the commission did not lay sufficient emphasis on the repeated reservations of military intelligence men under his command regarding the risks of the Phalangist connection."

Asked to enumerate outstanding differences of evaluation between military intelligence and the Mossad over the years, Herzog cited the Lavon affair; the debate over the German scientists in Egypt (which "caused Isser Harel's resignation from the Mossad and his replacement by Amit"), and the Yom Kippur War.

He recalled that the Agranat Commission had found that the Mossad lacked an independent research facility, and as a result of their report that omission was rectified.

"But the Agranat Commission also recommended that the prime minister have an independent intelligence adviser who would have the deciding opinion in cases of clashes between the evaluations of the military branch and the Mossad... That position was never established, perhaps because it would require a person of exceedingly high calibre. I believe that some of the problems touched on by the Kahan Commission might have been avoided had Premier Begin had an independent evaluation of intelligence material at his disposal."

HERZOG registered his surprise that the Kahan Commission had not devoted attention to the issue of varying evaluations.

"I hope this will not affect the work of military intelligence. We all tend to forget its unbelievable ratio of successes in all of our wars. It has been completely reliable. The mistakes that were made in the past were not caused by the absence of intelligence, which is always available, but were the result of evaluations such as in the Yom Kippur War, for which the political leadership cannot and should not be allowed to hide behind the chief of army intelligence.

"He is not a soothsayer, for the process of evaluating intelligence is far broader than the narrow confines of compiling it. It has to embrace a far wider consensus of

opinion. In the final analysis, the evaluation of intelligence, leading to the formulation of national policy, must rest with the Cabinet."

Here he noted that this matter was duly understood by the Kahan Commission, which unlike the Agranat Commission did not cast the entire responsibility on the chief of intelligence.

APART FROM his parliamentary duties, which includes membership of the Knesset Defence and Foreign Affairs Committee and its two sub-committees on military preparedness and intelligence, Chaim Herzog continues to be a prolific writer. His most recent work, *Arab-Israel Wars 1948-1982* has reached its fourth printing in the U.S., and is now available in Hebrew too.

Asked about the lessons of the Kahan report with regard to the IDF's operations, the ex-general noted that the unpublished sections included the matter of reporting in the military system, over which a question mark has been raised. This involves something that has bothered him for some time: army discipline.

"I have tabled a number of questions in the Knesset to Defence Minister Sharon about why our army should be the shoddiest in Lebanon. If appearances are so slipshod, then it must mean that weapons are neglected. What I saw for myself in Lebanon and what we can all see on TV newsreels about our front-line units must give us all reason for concern.

"Following an attack on an Israeli position on the Beirut highway, I see our boys describing it to an Israeli TV correspondent without wearing helmets or their flak jackets. No officer is disciplined for that kind of thing. Then there was the TV report of a stone-throwing incident in Dahariya on the West Bank, when an Israeli girl passenger sustained serious head injuries from a stone. We saw our soldiers travelling through the village without helmets. No one reacted. Worse still, our troops travel around the front lines without sand-bagged jeeps against mines.

"I'M NOT IN favour of being

starry-eyed about the IDF," the former general declared. "I think that we must continue to be critical in a constructive manner in order to keep our army on its toes. There is a much too high percentage of deaths in the IDF due to lack of discipline and to negligence."

How did he think the IDF, its commanders and soldiers, would take the Kahan report and its strictures on their top officers? How would they be affected by Sharon's impassioned speech about the four senior brass castigated by the commission?

"The army is a very strong body and thoroughly professional, with men of the highest capability concentrated in its ranks. I'm certain that it will cope with the commission's impact. Its strength lies in its flexibility and the number of people of high calibre available to replace any of its components. It continues to be an organization in which merit is the major element in advancement, and that is thanks to the foundations laid, and the standards set, by David Ben-Gurion."

Herzog sharply disagreed with Sharon's reaction.

"His mentioning the officers' records was superfluous. No one denies them their credits or biographies. Everyone knows about their credentials. But when the government, of which he is a member, decides to appoint a commission of inquiry, there can be no taking out an insurance policy. After all, we cannot afford a commission on condition."

CSO: 4400/257

STATUS OF ILLEGAL GAZAN WORKERS SURVEYED

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Feb 83 pp 1, 5

[Article by Joan Borsten]

[Text]

SIX A.M. on a recent Friday morning, still so dark that drivers are using their headlights. We ply Jaffa's Rehov Yehuda Hayamit in search of what locals callously call the *Shuk Ha'avadin*, The Slave Market -- a taxi stop that serves as an unofficial official meeting place for Gazans without work permits in search of short-term jobs and Israelis in need of manual labourers for a day or two.

There are at least 10 such "labour exchanges" in the Greater Tel Aviv area frequented by as many as 6,000 Gazans a day.

A few blocks west of Sderot Yerushalayim, the photographer spots several parked Peugeot and Mercedes taxis, all bearing the tell-tale silver licence plates that identify a vehicle as being registered in the Gaza Strip; an additional Hebrew letter further pinpoints the precise town or refugee camp.

In the next hour, several dozen more taxis, as well as a few buses (some with Israeli licence plates) and private cars will pull over to the curb, usually to disgorge more passengers than they are entitled to carry. This being a Friday, we are told, traffic is lighter than usual.

In the wooded park between the cabs, several dozen Arab men huddle around a campfire. Most left their homes in the Strip two to three hours earlier. We call them *Gazans*, but actually they are refugees from the southern regions of Mandatory

Palestine who fled to the Strip in 1948. Or their sons. They speak Hebrew with varying degrees of fluency. Their Arabic has been influenced by the accent and vocabulary of the Egyptians who ruled them from 1948-1967, as has their manner.

In age, the workers range from 16 to 52. Young Bassam, a resident of the Jabaliya refugee camp, says that since turning 12 he has accompanied his father to the Jaffa labour exchange every Friday, a school holiday. Some youngsters have no formal education; others have graduated from one of Cairo's universities but can't find jobs as academics either in the Strip, the Arab world or in Israel.

None of them seems to have specific professional skills; only low-level work experience in fields such as construction, agriculture, street-cleaning, dish-washing.

Except for a high-school senior earning money to put himself through college, all say they are supporting families which include either aging parents and numerous siblings, or first and second wives plus numerous children.

NONE OF THESE job-seekers possesses one of the work permits that the Labour Ministry requires of residents of the administered territories employed in Israel. Nor are they paid through the ministry's payments division as if they were

legal, which guarantees fair wages and social benefits. Those gathered around the campfire in Jaffa represent the majority of the Gaza Strip's 8,000 hard-core illegal labourers: men who work by the hour or by the day, their names and identity card numbers unknown to the income tax and National Insurance authorities.

There are several reasons these Gazans avoid all contact with officialdom. A significant number, it is believed, equate registration at the Labour Ministry with recognition of, and cooperation with, the Zionist state. A smaller segment fears that the ministry will share its employment lists with UNRWA and other welfare agencies, thus jeopardizing their eligibility for handouts.

Most acknowledge that in the unstable Middle East, they are more concerned about the present than the future. They prefer to take home a lot of money daily than to be burdened with income tax and deductions which may lead to such social-welfare benefits as an old-age pension in an unpredictable future.

The Catch-22 of the system is that even if a Gazan day-labourer wanted to work through the Labour Ministry infrastructure, he couldn't. Permits are only available to those steadily employed, not to independents or free-lancers. There is no way that the Gazan who frequents the "Slave Market" can secure for himself such benefits as vacation pay, sick pay, child allowance or health insurance.

Paradoxically, because the work permit law is so rarely enforced by Israel, most of the Gazans gathered around the Jaffa campfire think of themselves less as "illegal" than as "unregulated" workers. Even the ministry's word for them is not "illegal" but "unorganized."

The result is that, unlike California's Chicanos, the Gazans do not flee at sight of the law. In fact, they willingly show identity cards to the two Hagan men who regularly patrol the area, and sign their register — proof, as it were, of their whereabouts in case of a terrorist incident. And they say that they are careful to wait for those who employ them illegally in an area

specifically designated as an illegal labour exchange by the police. They are not afraid to give their names and addresses to a reporter, or to have their photographs taken.

AT ABOUT 6:30 the potential Israeli employers — Jews, Moslems and Christians — begin to arrive. First there is a green Volvo. The Jewish driver is offering IS 400 for a day's work unloading containers. The going minimum wage at the Jaffa exchange is IS100 higher, so there aren't many takers. Although the IS 400 represents cash in hand at the end of the day, expenses must be taken into account: the round-trip to Gaza runs from IS 60 to IS 100, depending on type of vehicle and day of the week. Another IS 50 must be allowed for food. And then there is common but incorrect belief that because the Gazan day-labourer does not work through legal channels, he is uninsured if injured at work and unprotected by the courts from unscrupulous employers.

Raising the ante even higher are possible medical expenses (those who aren't paid through the ministry are not entitled to free care at the Strip's equivalent of Kupat Holim) and UNRWA. On September 1, 1982, the UN agency stopped issuing food rations to all but hard-core welfare cases in Israel, Jordan, Syria and Egypt. Before this change in policy, the 200,000 Gazans with valid refugee cards could each count on a dole every two months of 10 kilos of flour, 1.2 kilos of sugar, 750 grams of oil and 1 kilo of rice.

A grey tender, driven by a contractor's assistant who speaks Arabic with an Iraqi accent, arrives to pick up the same six construction workers he employed the day before. A Jaffa Arab drives up in a white Volkswagen bus. A crowd rushes to hear what he has to offer and then to wrangle for a seat. Those on the sidelines speak with nostalgia of the job that once lasted two weeks, or two months, or two years.

Most of the labour exchange regulars come daily to Jaffa, or to another of the official-unofficial locales, but they find work only two or three times a week. If someone offers what might be a spell of

steady work, they'll take it — even if it means earning less per day and having to spend the night illegally in a factory bomb-shelter or an abandoned shack. Unless issued a special permit by the ministry, residents of the administered territories must be on their side of the border every night between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

Those who find work in Jaffa this morning will return home tonight with shekels in their pockets, most of it "black money" earned in cash by their Israeli bosses who never declared it to the Treasury. Of course, the Gazan day-labourer won't declare his earnings either.

The loss that this Israeli-Gazan collusion represents to the Finance Ministry, which regularly passes it on to the honest taxpayer, is staggering. A Labour Ministry source estimates that the 6,000 Gazans who support themselves through short-term jobs found at the Slave Market are costing the country approximately IS 200m. a year in lost revenue.

CSO: 4400/257

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Feb 83 p 2

[Article by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text]

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — Work is to begin here soon on a new air-traffic control system, which is expected to equal the world's best airports for safety, the chairman of the Airport Authority, Arye Grosbard, said yesterday.

The system will "revolutionize" aviation in Israel, he told *The Jerusalem Post*, asserting that "Flight safety will be brought up to the highest level in the world."

The system includes the "latest word" in American radar, now in use in 96 leading U.S. airports. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has agreed to lease it to Israel, and three FAA officials have already arrived to instal the system and to train personnel, at a cost to the Airports Authority of IS37 million.

The radar unit will be linked to an automatic air-traffic control system

called ARTS2, which will display the identity, type and height of aircraft flying in the area under Ben-Gurion Airport control. Such a system does not exist in most European countries, Grosbard said.

Because the new system is safer, air-traffic controllers will be able to reduce distances between planes and thereby increase the airport's capacity by 30 per cent, he added. The system is expected to be completed by the end of 1984.

A memorandum of sale for the ARTS2 has been concluded with its producer and has been approved by the Ministries of Finance and Transport, Grosbard said. He added that he hopes to instal the equipment in an envisaged IS70m. control tower, whose construction has been approved by the Transport Ministry, but awaits the Treasury's green light.

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KUWAIT

KUWAITI VICE PREMIER GRANTS INTERVIEW TO 'TANJUG'

AU231235 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 18 Feb 83 p 6

[Report on TANJUG interview with Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, granted in connection with the upcoming nonaligned summit meeting in New Delhi--no place or date given]

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Feb (TANJUG)--Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, has said in an interview with TANJUG that the forthcoming conference of the heads of states or governments of the nonaligned countries in New Delhi has "a very important task--to examine the ways with which it would be possible to overcome or at least alleviate the present international tension which complicates the world situation and which could ignite a war of wide proportions."

Having recalled that the nonaligned movement basically originated as an expression of the need to overcome the tension in the world resulting from a confrontation between the superpowers which has led to a division of the world and the creation of blocs, Sheikh al-Sabah said: "I believe that the main causes of crises, division and troubles in the world lie in a shaken belief in justice; in the fact that the basic needs of peoples are not met; in a shortage of the means which would make it possible for an individual to be happy in his society; and in the attacks on the interests of peoples in order to satisfy certain aspirations which only lead to greater complications and to the opening of doors to interventions and interference in the affairs of small countries by those who strive toward hegemony."

The Kuwaiti deputy prime minister expressed hope that the participants of the summit meeting in New Delhi "will operate in this tense and complex situation in accordance with the noble goals which were behind the creation of the nonaligned movement." "I am convinced," he added, "that many members of the nonaligned movement have a sober mind and ideas to make the summit successful."

In his view, the nonaligned movement is capable of acting with good will and resoluteness, in such a way as to "become an effective force which will impose itself on countries throughout the world and to become the real consciousness of mankind in strengthening its noble goals of respecting the rights of others and of noninterfering in their affairs."

Sheikh al-Sabah believes that the nonaligned movement must work toward restraining those countries "which violate human rights, ignore UN resolutions, mutilate the face of justice and falsify facts and history so that they only serve their interests and are detrimental to the interests of other peoples."

In view of the enormous importance of the problem, Kuwait expects that the economic relations in the world will be given priority at the New Delhi summit meeting. "Economic relations in the world," Sheikh al-Sabah said, "must be based on justice in the full sense of the word. To achieve this noble goal, it is necessary to invite qualified economic experts to work out several studies and to submit suggestions which could lead to establishing an effective world economic system."

Stressing that the disputes and armed conflicts between certain nonaligned countries are "a very serious phenomenon which could weaken solidarity within our movement," the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister proposed that a "strong commission be set up which should work on solving disputes and any disagreements which might arise among the member countries of our movement." Within this context, he particularly pointed to the need to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Sheikh al-Sabah believes that the struggle to strengthen world peace must be the priority of the nonaligned movement, "for peace means security and stability which will lead to development, progress and prosperity. A great gap now exists between peace and the absence of peace. Solving problems on the basis of injustice is contrary to peace. Peace which we advocate is based on justice and the nonuse of force."

Assessing the Middle East situation, the Kuwaiti foreign minister pointed to the interdependence in the world and to the fact that what is happening in one part of the world cannot but influence the situation in other areas. "For instance," he remarked, "what Israel is doing has a direct influence on our region. For this reason we must concentrate on overcoming everything that threatens our region. The creation of the council for cooperation of the Gulf countries within the Arab League is part of our interest in uniting efforts to avoid any outside interference and to reject any aggression."

According to the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, "the bilateral cooperation between our two countries is well established." "The development of this cooperation is being realized through regular mutual talks. For this reason these meetings on various economic and cultural levels must continue to be maintained," Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah said in conclusion.

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PAPER EXAMINES MINERAL DEPOSITS, ENERGY SOURCES IN KINGDOM

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 311, 5 Feb 83 p 45

[Article: The Search for Minerals in Saudi Arabia Bears Fruit in the Discovery of Coal and Gold. To Saudi Arabia's Petroleum Resources Are Added Others: Solar Power and Abundant Minerals Concealed in the Kingdom's Earth, Among Which Are Nickle, Iron, Copper, Gold, Uranium and, Last But Not Least, Coal]

[Text] Search operations for minerals undertaken by a number of foreign companies in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia yielded last month the discovery of an important stratum of hard coal extending for a distance of 30 kilometers, with a width of 65 to 70 meters and a depth of 10 to 15 meters. The Deputy Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth, Mr Ghari Sultan, who announced the news said that the kingdom's lands according to this discovery contain two other energy sources in addition to oil--coal and uranium.

However, the kingdom possess a fourth source of energy which is expected to be of some importance in the future, namely solar power, especially in the hotter parts of the kingdom. Studies by the Saudi University of Petroleum and Minerals indicate that exploitation of solar energy in one of these regions would be enough to meet the kingdom's electricity needs and supply some amount of electricity for export.

It is noted as well that the kingdom has a program to set up a model village, in cooperation with American research institutes, which would draw its energy from the sun. Some schools have been outfitted with solar-powered devices for heating water and for cooling.

At any rate, the new discovery, about which no details are yet available, has turned the attention of observers to the searches being made in the kingdom's wide territory by some foreign companies for minerals.

These searches have put an end to the legend that there are huge quantities of gold in Saudi Arabia, although the British firm Consolidated Gold Fields has discovered limited amounts of gold.

In addition to the company mentioned above, the firms doing the searching are: Grings International, a Swedish firm; Arabian Shield, British; Development, an American concern; the Saudi National Minerals Company; US Steel, of the United States; the Dutch concern Shell; Al-Dar' and Al-Bahr al-Ahman, two Arab companies; and the Canadian firm Corporation.

These firms are conducting search operations in nine various locations in the kingdom's territory. Up until now, these operations have not resulted in anything conclusive save in three locations. One is in Mahd al-Dhahab which lies to the east of Jidda, where the British company Consolidated Gold Mines came across what amounts to 1.2 million tons of mineral ore containing 31 tons of gold and considerable quantities of silver, copper and zinc. The company had started its exploratory work in 1976 according to an agreement with Petromin which set up a joint venture company with a capital of 140 million dollars split 50/50 by the two firms. Since that time, the company has dug a 22 kilometer long hole into the mountainous area called Mahd al-Dhahab to the east of Jidda.

Once the economic potential was established, Petromin bought up the shares of the British company last year and thereupon signed an administrative agreement with it on the basis of which it would undertake the basic engineering tasks, as well as the design work, the legal documents and all the tenders for the mine. It is expected that the company's work will end this coming August.

The second location is at Al-Nuqra and Al-Sufra mine. The Swedish company Grings International began exploratory operations there in 1978. In 1981, the company presented a report saying that the quantities of minerals which had been discovered, especially of gold, were sparse, and that the economic potential of its investment was small in the light of the fall in gold prices. However, the vice-governor of Petromin, Mr 'Abd al-Raziq Abu Rashid, said that work on developing the mine is continuing.

The third site is the mine in the Al-Masani' area. The economic benefit to be gained from its exploitation has been established despite the fact that evaluation of its reserves of gold, silver, copper, nickel and zinc have not yet been completed. The mine, which the three companies Arabian Shield, Development and the Saudi National Minerals Company are working on, lies 150 kilometers to the south of Mecca at an altitude of 1,620 meters. It is believed that its reserves total some 4 million tons of ore containing the above mentioned minerals. It would be possible to set up a mining plant producing above half a million tons of copper a year for 15 years.

As for the other sites, among them are the mines of Jabal Sayid, in which the French company Searam and US Steel are working. Up until now, the economic potential of these mines has not been established, despite the discovery of copper and zinc. The mines of Umm al-Shalahib to the south of Riyadh, are being explored by Shell Mining. Zinc and copper have been discovered there. In the mines of al-Hamala, to the east of Mecca, Shell has discovered tungsten and tin. However, Petromin has not yet reached final agreement with Shell concerning advancing the reserve. The Al-Qarya mines, which lie in western Saudi Arabia, have been shown to contain uranium and a group of other radioactive minerals. Petromin is cooperating with Al-Dar' al-'Arabi and National Mining and Red Sea Mining in exploring the mine. The al-Wajh mine has been shown by a Canadian company to contain gold, silver and diamonds. Negotiations are underway for an agreement of cooperation with Petromin in preparation for determining the mine's reserves.

12224

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OVERVIEW ON KING KHALID MILITARY COLLEGE

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 18 Dec 82 p 4

[Article by Sa'ud al-Musaybah: "Acting for al-Fahd, Crown Prince Observes Opening Ceremony Today at King Khalid Military College"]

[Text] Acting for H.M. King Fahd ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, supreme commander of the armed forces, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard, observed the official opening celebration of King Khalid Military College. This college is considered one of the most modern military colleges in our country, whether in its military program, which has been developed to embrace all practical military applications, or in its huge buildings and the modern facilities and equipment available to it. We present this tour of this splendid facility.

Birth of the College

The idea of King Khalid Military College for the National Guard was generated as a natural development of the stages of the preparation of officers in the National Guard. This idea came about as a result of the sensitivity of the leadership of the National Guard to their responsibility toward the need to prepare military leaders for the stage of complete development in Saudi Arabia in general in the National Guard in particular. This, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard, acting on the instructions of H.M. the king, observed that building the hearts and minds of leaders, strengthening their will, and polishing and developing their leadership talents is basic work for the institutes of teaching and training in the National Guard.

King Khalid Military College was created from this starting point, in accordance with the system of military colleges in the Kingdom. From this point also its goals, duties and functions were defined. Royal Decree no 151/2 dated 11/1/1400 [1977] was issued, and that was the climax of a long series of stages which the National Guard passed through in training its officers and leaders. A contract to build the college was signed with a commercial company of joint liability in the amount of 460 million riyals to construct the buildings and facilities of this splendid college to allow it to take its place beside the other Saudi colleges and universities.

Site and Acreage

The campus of the college covers 320,000 square meters. The college buildings occupy 76,000 square meters, and there are 17,500 square meters of green space covered with grass, 5,000 meters of interior roads, and a parking lot for 288 cars.

Planning

Several basic things were taken into consideration in planning the college, including its function as a military educational institution containing military students receiving higher instruction and training in accordance with a military program. Therefore there are classrooms, science labs, language labs, a library, drill grounds, rifle ranges, arsenals, and other things needed for education and training. The Islamic Arab architectural style was also taken into consideration in the construction of all of the buildings of the college, in the way the buildings achieve their function and in planning for easy access between buildings. Other factors taken into consideration include such things as climate, temperature, and surrounding conditions, all in amazing harmony which reflects the beautiful ingenuity of the legacy of this country and the availability of beautiful, restful surroundings for students and teaching, training and administrative staff. This was taken into consideration in providing housing, medical services, public facilities, recreation and athletic facilities and stores. The college was also designed to serve the desired capacity of King Khalid Military College, which is planned to receive 416 military students in addition to a work force of 1,017, including members of the teaching, training and administrative staff, officers and noncommissioned officers, drill instructors, and workers in the medical service, maintenance and public facilities. Planning has taken into account the duties, jobs and comfort of all of these people to make their work more pleasant, not only by providing a suitable work site but by providing an atmosphere for activity and relaxation and recreation as well.

Goal and Study

H.R.H. Prince Mit'ib ibn 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, acting head of the college, explains that King Khalid Military College derives its goals from the system of accredited colleges. Its character specifies that it is a military academic college which is part of the National Guard, and its function is to give the military student the theoretical and practical preparation to be an officer in the National Guard and a true representative of the solid Muslim citizen. King Khalid Military College grants a bachelor's degree in military science. The course of study is 3 years, divided into academic classes. After graduation, the Saudi student is appointed to the rank of lieutenant in the National Guard, according to the officers' service system.

Program of Studies

King Khalid Military College has taken advantage of the national experience in the war colleges and Saudi universities to plan studies and draw up programs.

In addition to representatives from the National Guard, King 'Abd-al-'Aziz War College, the College of the Internal Security Forces, King Sa'ud University and Imam Muhammad ibn Sa'ud Islamic University were invited to participate.

All of the members of this committee met on 28/5/1400 H [1979] to hear the instructions of the deputy assistant to the head of the National Guard, Shaykh 'Abd-al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Tuway jiri, who conveyed to the committee greetings from H.R.H. Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz and his deputy. He spoke about the goals of the college and the future image expected of the graduates of this college, and the need to endeavor to prepare programs in light of the principles of the true Islamic religion and the deep-rooted traditions of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, bearing in mind the flexibility needed to ensure that the college follows a practical path.

After that, committees were formed for the military and scientific programs, and these committees drew up detailed study plans and a detailed program for each course. The committee drew up the intellectual and ideological framework from which the plan evolved, according to the following basic steps:

Islam is the ideological basis on which the existence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia rests.

On this basis, the plan aimed at graduating an officer from the college with the rank of lieutenant, holding a bachelor's degree in military science. He would possess the scientific and cultural information needed to convert the knowledge into an effective force in his military life. He makes use of it in facing military life, solving its problems, and mastering applied practical skills suitable to the work of an officer, to perform his leadership duty in a way based on understanding, knowledge, combat practice, and awareness of the connection between knowledge and action in the military field, and also the trends and concerns which help to accomplish military work and direct the ability, existence, customs and behavior of the officer in a way in keeping with his position and help to build and supplement his identity in the military framework.

Bases of Curriculum

Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Sabit, undersecretary of the National Guard for cultural and educational affairs and supervisor of curriculum and instructional programs in the college, says that the plan of study in the college is composed of two parts: the cultural program and the military program.

The cultural program includes a number of subjects, including, for example, Islamic culture, languages, chemistry, economics, and other sciences, whether theoretical or social. King Khalid Military College has adopted the system of credit hours used in the world's universities, which makes it easy for the officer graduate to continue his higher studies if desired.

As for the military program, it is aimed at developing leadership qualities in the student while emphasizing military discipline and strengthening a strong sense of duty and responsibility, in addition to building a high level of

physical fitness and offering the military and specialized education necessary for the pursuit of the military profession. The military curriculum includes a complete course of military subjects, including weapons, manual dexterity, mobilization, mapreading and compass reading, infantry, military administration, military history, and other specialized subjects which serve the functional growth of the officer graduate.

Formation of Committee

The college structure is headed by a higher council chaired by H.R.H. Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the National Guard, with H.R.H. Prince Badr ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy head of the National guard, as vice chairman of the college's higher council. Membership of the council includes the deputy assistant chief of the National Guard, Prof 'Abd-al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Tuwayjiri, and the undersecretary of the National Guard, Prof 'Abd-al-'Aziz AL 'Ali al-Tuwayjiri, head of the military apparatus in the National Guard, acting of King Khalid Military College Mit'ib ibn 'Abdallah, with Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Sabit, undersecretary of the National Guard for cultural and educational affairs, as general secretary of the council.

Number of Students

Prince Mit'ib ibn 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, acting head of the college, says that King Khalid Military College accepted 200 students this school year, including 110 students from the military school of the National Guard and 90 students who came to the college from outside the National Guard. There were more than 500 of these applicants. The head of the college brings the glad tidings that if a graduate of King Khalid Military College so desires, after graduation he may enroll in King Sa'ud University and receive credit for his studies at King Khalid Military College. This gives special status to the College and commends the college for the strength of its program, whose teachers include the cream of the professors from King Sa'ud University.

What the Campus Contains

The campus of King Khalid Military College contains all of the facilities and equipment available in the most progressive military colleges in the world. Director of Public Relations Muhammad ibn Faraj al-Shahri gave us a tour of the college departments and showed the following to us.

Library

The college has a huge library containing numerous books and manuscripts. The library is supplied with everything needed by the members of the faculty, researchers and students for research and study. All of the various sources of knowledge are organized and classified in a modern way. King Khalid Military College Library is trying to be a major source of books, periodicals, reference materials and documents pertaining to military science, which is the college's basic concern, and an adequate source for educational and scientific research purposes, of books and sources concerning the fields of science and education

with which the college is concerned. Another consideration in planning the library was achieving flexibility for future expansion and change, while providing comfort and ease of access for visitors. As to size, the planners relied on the ratios used in many national and international universities, aiming at 100 volumes for each student, with enough positions for reading, research and library services for students and faculty members so that 50 percent of the students and staff could use the library at one time.

Classes and Offices

Next we toured the classrooms, which are used for 74 scholastic classes and classes in communication, theoretical studies in weapons, laboratories for chemistry, physics, biology, language labs, and laboratories for other sciences, with complete audiovisual equipment suitable for every course in the program of study. We then toured the buildings and housing equipped for bachelor officers and instructors. This housing includes 75 bedrooms. Another building contains 128 bedrooms for college employees and military personnel, while regular officers are housed in another building with 75 bedrooms with suitable comforts and furnishings. The college guards are housed in another building with 131 rooms.

There is also a separate building with 121 rooms housing civilian college employees. There is special housing with 48 rooms for maintenance employees, as well as buildings for students. The student housing includes four buildings connected by covered passageways, each one housing 104 students. Each student has a separate room equipped with a closet, bed, desk, lavatory, and bookshelves. I believe that the student in the college will find himself in a completely happy situation, which will help him to exert efforts to study and learn.

Food and Recreation Building

On the ground floor of this two-story building are three dining rooms which can serve 600 persons at once, self-service. There are three recreation rooms for students, officers and visitors, and rooms supplied with some games and recreational services, such as pingpong tables, television, and a cafeteria. In another building there are three more dining rooms: One for employees, another for guards, and a third for military employees. These can serve 390 people at once, self-service. There are also three recreation rooms for employees, guards and military employees.

Clinic

Next we toured the fully-equipped clinic which serves the students and affiliates of King Khalid Military College. This clinic contains 28 beds, doctors' rooms, X-ray facilities and a pharmacy, as well as a dental clinic. This clinic treats routine illness and supervises preventive and primary health care. Difficult or complicated cases will be transferred to the National Guard hospitals.

Large Hall

Next we visited the large reception hall, which has complete sound and lighting equipment. This hall may be used for movies, plays and ceremonies, and contains 850 seats with special places for important visitors and dignitaries.

The King Khalid Military College campus has all of the storage facilities necessary for military purposes. There are warehouses for uniforms and shoes, a storage room for spare parts for cars, and a workshop to repair vehicles, in addition to offices, halls, a print shop, a covered training field, and a pump to supply fuel.

Mosque Facilities and Services

There is no doubt that religious facilities are among the most important. At King Khalid Military College, a modern mosque has been built in the Islamic architectural style. It sits at the heart of the campus, with its lofty minaret and its unique Arab Islamic engineering.

The mosque is near all of the residential buildings and offices so that it is easy to reach to perform prayers. It includes a separate building for ritual ablution and another for the imam's residence. The mosque covers 2200 square meters and can hold more than 1,000 worshippers.

Water

After water comes to the college from its source, it is held in a special storage compartment before it is treated. It then undergoes a quality check to confirm that it has been properly treated, after which it is held in a water reservoir. It is then pumped to the water tower and from there to the buildings by gravitational force. Sewage is treated, stored with rainwater, and pumped to irrigate the college vegetable gardens. It can also be used for firefighting.

The water network includes a water treatment plant, a sewage treatment plant, a main control and quality checking room, a 30,200 [gallon] underground reservoir for drinking water, and a storage room for chemical supplies used in the preceding operations.

The underground water tank consists of two separate parts, one for treated water which can be used in irrigation and firefighting, with a capacity of 6,500 cubic meters, and the second for water before it is treated, with a capacity of 600 cubic meters.

Electricity

The electrical network includes high voltage equipment. There are six substations at King Khalid Military College distributed according to the electrical load in the buildings. Five stations are fed through two closed circuits, one of them to be used in case the main current is cut off. The electrical circuit starts from the energy collector to feed the substations with the necessary current under 13.8 kilovolts to keep the voltage at 220/380 volts.

Closed Circuit Television Equipment

There are 19 cameras along the outside walls of King Khalid Military College to observe all of the entrances and walls of the college by way of monitors in the command and guard buildings. The commander can observe activity through a monitor in his office. There are also two studios on the campus from which programs are transmitted throughout the college for educational and recreational purposes in this internal network. There is also modern telephone equipment. The college is supplied with a 60-line switchboard which in turn links the college with the outside world. There is an internal radio station in which the students participate in the programs in their cultural, dramatic and intellectual activities. The college also has a mobile radio station for outside broadcasts, accompanying maneuvers, broadcasting special occasions, and linking all of the college buildings. It is accompanied by public address equipment which can be controlled from three points: the leadership building, the mosque, and the guard building. Secondary control of this equipment is handled through the heavy equipment in each building. The structure also includes the main timing apparatus in the guard building and the auxiliary clocks in all of the college buildings, with warning equipment and a control panel. There are two stores in the college where students may buy everyday necessities, and at one merchandise is sold to students at reduced prices.

Athletic Complex

The huge athletic complex contains a covered [indoor] swimming pool equipped for competition, with seats for spectators, and a hall for gymnastics which can be used for basketball, with seats for 240 spectators. There are also a workout room, squash courts, and a locker room.

There is also a stadium for football with a track for runners and a football field with artificial turf. It is lighted and equipped for high jump, broad jump, hop, step and jump, pole vault and shotput, with bleachers for 5,000 spectators. It contains space for locker rooms, showers, rooms for officials, offices for trainers and meeting rooms.

Marksanship Ranges

The college has two enclosed halls for marksmanship, the first for rifles with a range of 150 meters, accommodating 18 marksmen, and the second for pistols with a range of 30 meters, accommodating 14 marksmen. Both halls are equipped with moving targets and contain rooms for instructors and for storing and repairing weapons.

Training and Teaching Staff

King Khalid Military College set out to assemble a high quality training and teaching staff. In addition to the senior officers who conduct military training, courses are taught by highly qualified and experienced professors. In this field King Khalid Military College has applied the bases used in Saudi

universities out of a desire to attract and retain highly qualified staff members and induce them to interact with the future of the college. Although priority is given to Saudi citizens when filling teaching positions, Arab expertise is also widely utilized. However, King Khalid Military College is just getting started and is operating in accordance with a long-term development plan in attempting to augment its facility by tapping the national potential. King Khalid Military College has tried to supply stability for its instructors, faculty, and its workers in general by providing housing, schools, and communications and providing an atmosphere which is conducive to work, leisure, training, research and study.

7587

CSO: 4404/166

FURTHER DECENTRALIZATION IN ADMINISTRATION PLANNED

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 18 Jan 83 p 5

/Article by Tarif Hakimi: "What Is the Meaning of the Application of the Second Stage of the Local Administration Law?"/

/Text/ What Does the Application of the Second Stage of the Local Administration Law Mean?

Since it was launched, the 8 February Revolution has sought to transform our country from a state of backwardness, dominance and exploitation into a socialist society where the power will belong to the ordinary toiling classes in the form of workers, peasants, small businessmen, intellectuals and all productive forces which contribute to the construction of the nation and strive to achieve the nation's hopes.

The revolution entered a new stage with the launching of the corrective movement which the president and fighting man Hafiz al-Asad led. One of the factors that justified the launching of this movement was the process of consulting with the people regarding all its affairs, and, on this basis, the Local Administration Law, its executive bill and all the legislation and statutes needed to put this law into effect were issued.

The Local Administration Law is considered to be an important turning point in the history of our pioneering revolution, since it has set out new premises and concepts for government. In the forefront of these has been the concentration of responsibility in the hands of the productive classes of the people so that they can engage in the tasks of leadership themselves, bringing about the broadest scope for the application of the principle of popular democracy and collective leadership.

The Goals and Premises of the Law

From a rapid reading of the Local Administration Law and its executive bill, we can find that this law came about as a result of a thorough scientific study of the experiences many foreign and Arab countries have gone through, especially the socialist ones, after a realistic appraisal of the various circumstances of the country and the complete absorption of these circumstances. It expresses, in its totality, the desire of the revolution and the party to

put the administration of local affairs in the hands of the masses of the people, the ones with the real direct interest in that. To this end, the legislative authority defined the goals of the law as follows:

A. Concentrating responsibility in the hands of the productive classes of the people so that they can pursue the tasks of leadership themselves. This requires the attainment of the broadest scope for the application of the principle of popular democracy, which causes the whole process to arise from the will of the people and guarantee their permanent oversight over proper execution and their effective participation in the attainment of a unified socialist Arab society.

B. Making administrative units at all levels responsible for culture, services, the economy, and all matters that are of concern to the citizens in these units directly, in the context of general planning and the laws and statutes that the government approves and in the desire to uplift the society's general and local affairs at the same time.

C. Transferring areas of specialization related to these matters to local authorities so that the task of the central authorities will be restricted to planning, legislation, organization, the introduction of modern technical systems, surveillance, accreditation, training, coordination, the monitoring of execution and the construction of major projects that the administrative units are unable to carry out or which by their nature are of an importance that is connected to the citizens in general.

D. Guaranteeing real, feasible participation in the efforts made to bring about the uplifting of the society in its local context, on the part of competent persons who are able to offer such constructive participation.

E. Assigning powers that will help the administrative units perform their activities properly through the authorities derived from their management and putting all the resources that they will require to that end at their disposal.

Through a review of these objectives and the provisions the law contains, we can see that it embodies important principles and premises in its provisions which had not been witnessed in the framework of previous statutes. One might summarize the most prominent of these as follows:

Implanting the Principle of Popular Democracy and Democratic Centralism

The Local Administration Law and the Law on the Election of Local Assemblies explicitly embrace the system of popular democracy, in order to bring about the participation of the masses in public affairs. That manifests itself through:

The fact that the formation of local assemblies takes place through direct secret elections to administrative units on the part of everyone who has the right to vote. There is no doubt that the citizens' exercise of this basic

right in their lives will have the effect of stirring their enthusiasm and zealous attention toward their local affairs, not to speak of public affairs.

The lack of restrictions imposed on the citizens' exercise of their right to vote and run as candidates for membership in these councils, proof of which are the provisions the Law on the Election of Local Assemblies contains giving citizens an adequate amount of freedom in this regard.

Having workers, peasants and small businessmen represented by a proportion of no less than 60 percent, on grounds that they constitute the majority of the population, and asserting their effective role in society, above and beyond the representation of people engaged in liberal occupations, teachers, students, young people and the other remaining groups of the people.

The fact that the members of the local councils are not responsible, in a criminal or civil context, for the facts they present or the views they express in the sessions and activities of the committees, in addition to the fact that the members of the governorate council, during the period in which it is convened, enjoy immunity and may not be prosecuted in a criminal context or have a criminal verdict carried out against them, until the permission of the assembly has been received exempting the case of the crime on which evidence exists.

The Integration of Powers

While the Local Administration Law has had the effect of entrusting the performance of their affairs to the administrative units themselves and of consecrating the principle of popular democracy in them in the manner we have stated, the Local Administration Statute endorses another principle, which is in keeping with and not separate with the former one: that is the principle of democratic centralism which views the various authorities as representative of the will of the people, founding out the integration of this will and guaranteeing the unity of the entity of the state and its powers and the attainment of responsible decentralization..

As a consequence of this, administration in the central authorities and the administrations in the local units do not have conflicting interests. As long as all these bodies are inspired by the interests of the people as a whole, not regional or local interests, there is no scope for contradiction among them and consequently there is no need to endorse the principle of the method of passing judgment among the three powers, the legislative, the executive and the judiciary, in the sense that capitalist democracy has intended.

As a result of that, as long as the initiatives proceed from the base to the apex and as long as the decisions of the apex, which arises from the will of the base, are inspired by these initiatives in favor of prevailing opinions, it is the duty of the lower sources of reference to bind themselves to the directives of the higher sources of reference, and so on, up to the apex. This embodies, in realistic, practical form, the unity of the entity and the

power of the state without infringing upon the lower sources of references rights to offer their recommendations and views on matters connected to the higher sources of reference's areas of competence.

The fact that the Local Administration Law has adopted the method of democratic centralism is evident in the following points:

The local councils and their executive offices are an integral part of the state; in other words, they are a sector of the general administrative apparatus of the state through which the administration of their affairs has been assigned to the citizens. On this basis, the exercise by the local authorities, councils and executive offices of their areas of specialization by virtue of the law must take place in the context of the general policy of the state and its comprehensive plan, its laws and its statutes.

Oversight by the Council of Ministers of the executive offices and government agencies at various levels and oversight by the higher local authorities with their authorities and agencies over the lower local authorities, or, in other words, the application of the principle of the chain of command, in terms of commitment by the leaders at the lower level to the directives of the leaders at the higher level.

The Distribution of Powers among Local and Central Authorities

The legislators were concerned that tasks should be distributed among the central and local authorities and that the responsibilities of each should be defined, while sufficient rules were provided to resolve all conflicts in authorities or contradictions in interests; to this end, it has put a dividing line which is almost all-exclusive between these two types of tasks. That is apparent in the stipulations the law makes on giving administrative units at every level responsibility for culture, services, the economy, and all matters that are of concern to citizens in these units.

An example of this is approval of the annual and long range economic plans of installations and sectors that lie within their areas of competence and the framework of the general plan of the government.

The use of local resources.

The approval of programs that will lead to the development of agriculture and everything related to production.

The creation of industrial projects, participation in their establishment and management and the effort to introduce modern technology.

The development of cooperation in various fields and the establishment of and support for cooperative societies for that purpose.

The assignment of power to administrative units to carry out joint projects among themselves in a manner that will bring benefit to the people in the

administrative units that are taking part in these projects and consequently reflect great benefit on the domestic economy.

The development of internal trade and supply organizations in a manner responding to the needs of the citizens, guiding government agencies and conducting oversight over them on matters concerned with financial affairs and prices.

Central Areas of Competence

The Local Administration Law restricts the central authorities' task to planning, legislation, organization, the introduction of new modern techniques, oversight, accreditation, training, coordination, the monitoring of execution, and the construction of major projects the administrative units are incapable of carrying out.

The Centralization of Planning

The Local Administration Law has proceeded in accordance with the modern trend that is dominant in the world, especially in the socialist countries, which have adopted the method of comprehensive state planning; this consequently requires unity in the administration that is in charge of preparing this planning and unity in the leadership that determines and follows up on the execution of it.

The legislators have had the local administration authorities retain the right to offer recommendations, specify the projects which must be carried out, specify their priority and provide them with broader scope in matters connected to horizontal planning through the distribution of projects that are specified vertically for governorates in accordance with the resources of the manpower in them and their resources.

In the past two sessions, local administration has played an important role in the planning field. The governorate assemblies have offered effective participation in the preparation and execution of the fourth 5-year plan and the provision of conceptions for the fifth 5-year plan. All administrative units, even those in villages, have taken part in determining requirements, ordering priorities and carrying out local projects, especially in road building, electrifying villages, building schools, piping water and building and supervising public utility installations.

The Centralization of Legislation and Organization

The law has given all local government levels the right of organization regarding matters that the central authorities or higher local administration authorities do not regulate, so that there will be no way for defects observed by the authorities in an administrative authority to remain while these authorities have no opportunity to find a suitable solution for it. Our existing legislation has firmly implanted this approach in a manner that leaves no room for ambiguity.

Centralization of Oversight

The Local Administration Law has assigned to the function of oversight the attention it has granted to the functions of planning and organization, and has defined its objective by stressing that the local assemblies, their executive offices and their agencies must perform their tasks in a manner that does not conflict with the laws and statutes in effect and the general plan of the government. The law has given the central authorities the right to demand periodic reports on work that has been carried out and the progress of work in projects and to have their technicians conduct surveillance on methods of execution and the extent to which technical rules and the central administration's instructions on them have been carried out. The law will not prevent local administration authorities from having their own oversight agencies when needed.

Centralization of Scientific and Technical Research

The basic factor in assigning this task to the central authorities lies in the fact that it requires large expenses and concentrated, unified efforts which cannot be realized through local administration units, although that does not prevent technical personnel, wherever they might be, from conducting scientific and technical monitoring on the individual level; indeed, this is a duty that must not be neglected.

Centralization of Accreditation and Training

The law restricts this task to the central authorities, since accreditation and training require technical and financial resources. However, that does not prevent the training of local trainers who can hold local courses within attainable limits in order to help raise the competence of local agencies.

Finally, one must say that we are on the verge of entering a new stage in the execution of the Local Administration Law which is to go into effect on 20 February 1983: that of the election of town and municipality assemblies in addition to the governorate assemblies. These elections will include 71 towns, which are the capitals of the governorates in addition to the capitals of the regions and population agglomerations whose populations are greater than 20,000 apiece, and 185 towns which are the capitals of districts and population agglomerations whose populations are greater than 10,000 apiece. In the recent period, the local administration system has been progressing at reasonable rates, and the local administration authorities have to a large extent succeeded in engaging in the areas of specialization transferred to them in spite of the critical Arab and international circumstances that our country has been going through.

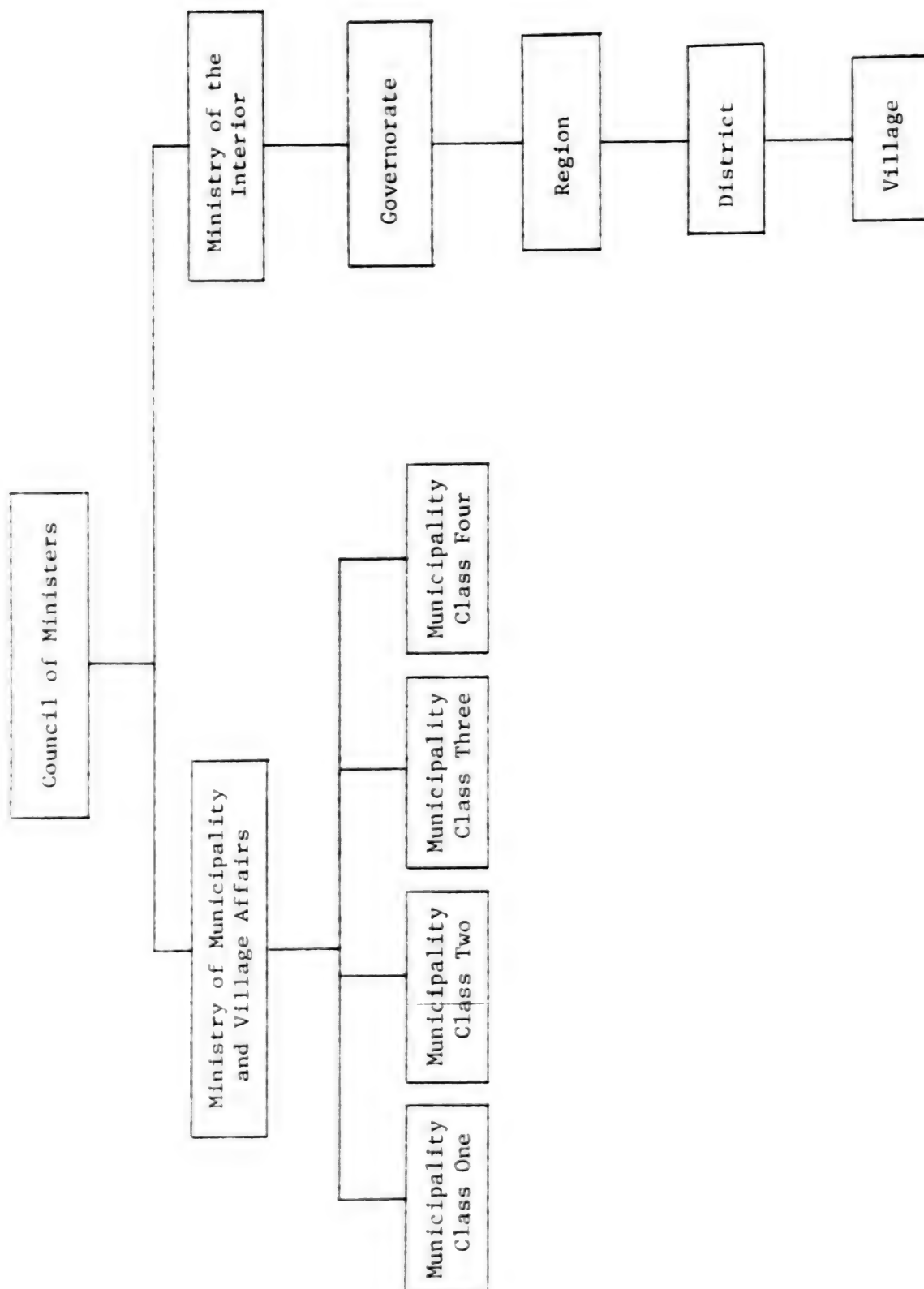
We are optimistic that the system will progress along the proper road toward broader participation by the people out of our faith that the party leading the society and the government, which has put the local administration system into application for the first time in the history of the country, has advised its regional conferences to support it and has moved its processes forward,

will spare no effort to enhance its progress and provide it with incentives to take off so that a spirit of self-sacrifice and responsibility will be inspired in every citizen and every movement in the local context in every place where the powers of the productive people are present, and will mobilize them for the sake of the attainment of the revolution in development and comprehensive construction.

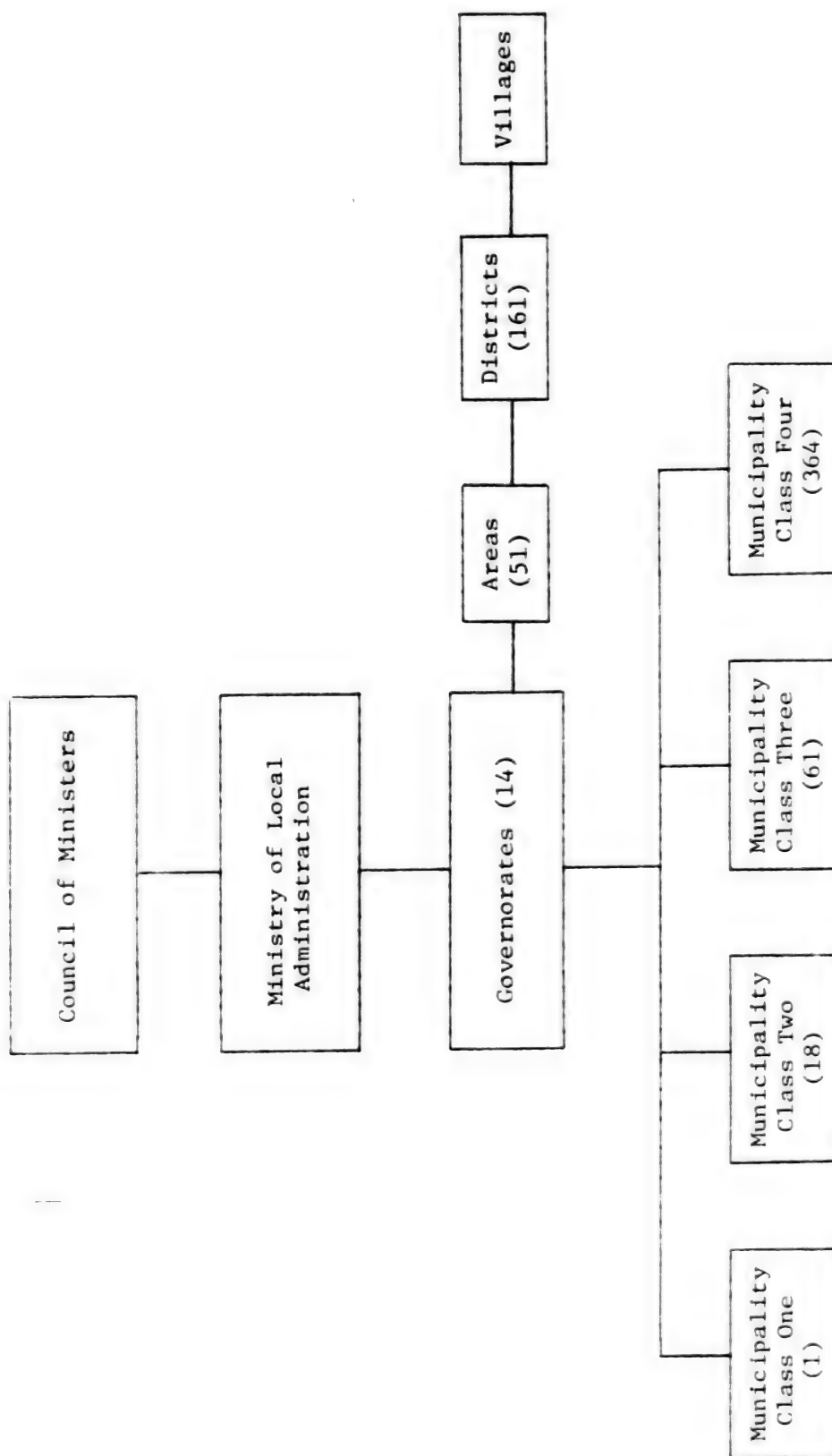
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GSO: 4404/239

The Organizational Structure of Local Administration Before Current Conditions [old system]



The Organizational Structure of Local Administration Under Current Conditions [new system]



SEMINAR ON EEC PREFERENCE SCHEME HELD IN DHAKA

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] A two-day seminar on the European Communities' scheme of Generalised System of Preference (GSP) began on Monday in Dhaka.

The participants in the seminar, organised jointly by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) and European Economic Community (EEC), included representatives from the private and the public sectors the Government bodies and departments and the banks.

Speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural session of the seminar Mr. Obaidul Huq Editor The Bangladesh Observer, noted that export promotion efforts were of prime importance for the developing countries like Bangladesh in the context of contemporary global trading pattern and arrangement. While initiative, enterprise and entrepreneurship have a great bearing upon the level of our economic performance, the erection of high tariff walls and the practice of protectionism in the developed countries have acted as deterrents to export growth and development of countries like ours, he added.

He stated that the global economic interdependence called for co-ordinated and concerted efforts on the part of the developed countries in particular to sustain and promote growth and development of all nations, particularly the developing ones. He appreciated the growing realisation among some developed countries about the needs to create a more congenial economic atmosphere for meaningful global interdependence. The developed countries have now come to realise that they cannot live undisturbed for long in isolation in an island of affluence in an inter-dependent world economy, he pointed out.

About the seminar Mr. Huq said that it was of great significance as it would enable the participants to understand the operations of the EEC's scheme of GSP in details and also its implications for Bangladesh's export trade with the EEC countries.

The inaugural session of the seminar was also addressed by Mr. Michael Cendrowicz, Principal Administrator, EEC's GSP scheme, and Mr. R.A. Mozumder Vice-Chairman EPB Earlier, Mr. Habibur Rahman Director General EPB, welcomed the participants in the seminar.

In his speech, Mr. Cendrowicz said that the EEC was the first among the developed countries to put into operation a GSP scheme as far back as 1971 following the second UNCTAD conference in March 1968. He observed that the EEC was the only donor country right from the start to fulfil the spirit of UNCTAD resolution. Since 1971, the EEC's scheme of GSP has been regularly reviewed and updated so that its impact on international trade is even greater, he added.

He recalled that the EEC Council of Ministers took the decision in December, '80 to continue to offer preferences to developing countries for a further period of 10 years. A process of additional liberalisation was begun in 1977 in favour of least developed countries such as Bangladesh which meant that since 1980 preferential limits are no longer operated against any LDC on any industrial or textile product covered by the scheme, although such exports do of course still have to meet our normal margin requirements, he added. He pointed out that since January of this year the EEC had put into effect a major new initiative for least developed countries by giving them duty-free access on an additional 380 agricultural products otherwise dutiable.

Mr. Cendrowicz maintained that the EEC had always believed in the GSP as a major instrument for the maintenance of an open world trading system.

In his speech, Mr R. A. Mozumder; Vice-Chairman of EPB observed that the GSP as an operational scheme with its generalised Non-reciprocal and Non-discriminatory features had played an important role in export promotional field. He felt that the participants in the seminar would largely benefit from the deliberations on the basic principles of the GSP; the European community's scheme for agricultural products; administration of the GSP scheme; rules of origin utilization of the GSP and other related matters.

He however pointed out that the in-built safeguard system of the GSP such as quota restrictions country of origin clauses and other non-tariff barriers would need to be properly assessed and evaluated to examine the ways and means for ensuring that the beneficiaries of the scheme got the maximum advantages out of it. He was of the view that the participants in the seminar while equipping themselves with the operational aspects of the GSP should also bring to the notice of the preference-giving countries the non-tariff barriers which stood in the way of its most effective and advantageous use by the intended beneficiaries.

CSO: 4600/1777

PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL TOLD OF DHAKA SUPPORT

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] ALGIERS Feb 16--The leader of the Bangladesh delegation to the 16th session of the Palestine National Council Mr. Mahbubur Rahman Minister for Local Government and Rural Development was warmly received by the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasser Arafat when he called on him at the Club De Pin International conference complex in Algiers yesterday evening reports BSS.

He was accompanied by Mr. Masud Ahmed Bangladesh Charge d'Affaires in Algiers.

The Local Government Minister conveyed the greetings of the Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. General H. M. Ershad along with his good wishes for the success fo the 16th session of the PNC

During the meeting the Bangladesh Minister reiterated complete solidarity with the Palestinian brothers as was demonstrated earlier by the people of Bangladesh in the Lebanese battle front. The Minister added that the Government and people of Bangladesh were totally committed to the heroic struggle of the Palestinians for regaining their homeland and independence.

Chairman Yasser Arafat gratefully acknowledged the brotherly sentiment expressed by the Minister and for all the political moral and material assistance extended by Bangladesh in their struggle. He also recalled with satisfaction and pride the heroic fight waged by the courageous Bangladeshi volunteers who fought shoulder to shoulder against the zionist aggressors in Lebanon.

On a renewed request to visit Bangladesh Chairman Yasser Arafat warmly remembered the invitation of the CMLA and added "how can I forget Bangladesh whose valiant sons had heroicaly fought and shed their blood with us in Beirut'.

Chairman Arafat observed that Bangladesh was very close to his heart and that he was looking forward to the visit in the near future.

CSO: 4600/1777

CZECHOSLOVAK EXPERTS CALL ON ENERGY MINISTER

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] The visiting Czechoslovakian Skoda expert team called on the DCMLA and Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud at his secretariat office on Wednesday, reports ENA.

They discussed matters relating to further supply of materials and equipment to complete the construction of 110 MW Shikalbaha and 60 MW Goalpara power plants in Chittagong and Khulna respectively.

The members of the team assured the DCMLA to supply the necessary equipment for completing the construction work of both the generating stations. They also assured the DCMLA to despatch the technical personnel within two months. They will also furnish the required materials from any other sub-contractors, if they fail to manufacture them in their country.

Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud emphasised on the completion of the construction of these generators on time. He said the PDB personnel will assist the Skoda representatives in performing their task.

The DCMLA informed that the instructions have been given to PDB personnel to encourage the local industries to manufacture some of the materials within the country and while this construction work is in progress, the training of operational and maintenance personnel should also be completed.

Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud expressed his gratitude to the government of Czechoslovakia for having taken prompt action by sending Skoda experts to evaluate the progress of construction works.

The Czech ambassador Mr. A Venglar in Dhaka was also present.

CSO: 4600/1777

REVISED PLAN SEES TAX RAISES FOR 1984-85

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Feb 83 pp 1, 8

[Article by Kazi Montu]

[Text] During the last two years of the Second Five Year Plan (SFYP) an additional sum of Tk. 381 crore will be collected through imposition of new tax and revenue measures as envisaged in the revised plan now under consideration of the Cabinet for its approval.

The government has targetted to raise a total of Tk. 986 crore during the plan beginning from fiscal 1980-81. The taxes and revenues during the first three years of the plan period have been estimated to stand at Tk. 481 crore.

The proposed new taxes in the revised plan have been anticipated to constitute 9.5 per cent of the national income in the fiscal 1984-85 as against 7.9 per cent recorded in 1979-80.

According to the draft revised SFYP the amount of savings to be mobilized for investment will not create additional pressure on the living standard of the people.

The success of the proposed outlay as targetted in the revised plan will lead to the enhancement of national income by 5.4 per cent annually and the living of standard by 5 per cent.

The rate of increase is anticipated to increase from 4.3 per cent to 7.4 per cent.

The adoption of new tax and revenue measures is likely to be counterproductive for the growth of national economy as the potential surplus that can be mobilized is inherently constrained by the country's absolute poverty line.

The World Bank in an earlier review observed that the tax policy of Bangladesh Government was required to be determined on the basis of criteria consistent with the government's wider development and resource allocation objectives rather than being set mainly in an ad-hoc fashion to cover anticipatory budgetary gaps as has tended to be the practice in the past.

It may be pointed out that the Martial Law authorities have taken various steps to exercise austerity in the public sector and get rid of the losing concerns through their disposal to the private sector.

But according to available projections, the savings as a result of these measures have been very minimal, although claims are there about hug savings.

On the other hand, expenditures in the public sector have increased due to various factors including implementation of the administrative organisation scheme.

The government has, meanwhile, decided to entrust the upgraded thana parishads with the task of collecting taxes and revenues for financing their own project despite opposition by the Finance and Planning Minister A.M.A. Muhith who mentioned in a report to the National Implementation Committee for Administrative Reorganisation (NICAR) that the creation of a tax base at the than parishad level would generate dissatisfaction among the rural people already overburdened with taxes.

The further widening of taxes in the coming years to meet the anticipated budgetary gaps will result in the proliferation of the people's sufferings, says a renowned economist of the country.

CSO: 4600/1770

REPORT ON ERSHAD SPEECHES IN CHITTAGONG

Speech to Ward Committees

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Feb 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] CHITTAGONG, Feb 10--Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. General H. M. Ershad has said a section of self-seeking persons are out to frustrate government's 'pro-people policies' by instigating student community in educational institutions.

He called upon all concerned particularly the students not to be misguided and led to the wrong path saying that "If you follow those self-seekers on a wrong way, you will be taking the country to a state of ruination".

The General was addressing the chairmen and members of the newly appointed municipal ward committees and cross section of people at the outer stadium here this morning which was presided over by Brigadier Mafizur Rahman Chowdhury Administrator Chittagong Municipal Corporation.

The CMLA told the students that those 'self seeking so-called political leaders' whenever required used them (students) for their personal gains but in return gave nothing except unemployment.

Gen. Ershad categorically said his government has no political ambition. The Principal aim of the government is to ensure economic emancipation of the people, he added. The standard of education was not raised so long, he said and added the new education policy of the present Government was formulated with the objective to ensure a happy life for the students through creating appropriate employment opportunities.

He went on to say that the new education policy also aimed at removing all sorts of irregularities from the educational institutions and expressed determination of the Government to implement the policy at any cost.

Spelling out other state policies, General Ershad said his Government had attached top priority to agriculture, industry and population control to enable the nation to live with prestige, honour and sovereignty.

General Ershad said that increase of production in fields and factories coupled with ceaseless efforts for control of population boom could only take the nation to the road to prosperity and progress.

He urged the chairmen and members of the ward committees to work hard with a sense of honesty and dedication and materialise the development plan by mobilising their local resources and government grants.

The CMLA said, his governments' step for setting up of the High Court benches at some important towns of the country was taken with a view to taking the administration to the door-step of the commonman. In this connection he pointed out that the Government would reform "everything" for the benefit of the people. He said each upgraded thana will be led by a chairman, directly elected by the people, while as many as 17 government officials belonging to various departments will work under him.

BSS Adds: Earlier the CMLA visited the 12 Field Regiment artillery. He was accompanied by the Zonal Martial Law Administrator Zone C, Major General Abdul Mannaf. Later addressing a huge gathering at Chandpur the CMLA stressed the need for maintaining peaceful atmosphere and stability for sustaining the massive development efforts already initiated in different fields under the reformative measures.

Speech at Infirmary

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Feb 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] CHITTAGONG, Feb 10, (BSS)--The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad today urged the richer section of the people to promote welfare activities in the country with a view to alleviating the sufferings and miseries of the millions of neglected people.

Addressing as chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the eye infirmary and training complex at Pahartali opposite Foy's lake here this morning he pointed out that because of resources constraints it was not possible on the part of the government to provide all necessary medical and other facilities to the millions of poor people of the country. He said, the well-off people will have to come forward with welfare programmes like hospitals to help mitigate the sufferings of the poor people.

The eye infirmary and training complex has been constructed by Bangladesh National Society for the Blind with assistance from the people and the Government of the United Kingdom, Australia and West Germany. The West German voluntary organisation "Andheri Hilfe" contributed major part of the construction cost. The 130 bed eye hospital cost Taka seven crore.

The function was attended by diplomats and dignitaries from the three countries besides Finance and Planning Minister Mr M A Muhith, Health Minister Major General Shamsul Huq and the Women's Affair Minister Dr Shafia Khatun. Mr. AK Khan President of BNSB presided.

General Ershad said that the government would extend all necessary help whenever people come forward with welfare programmes with the prime objective of

benefitting the poor. In this connection he said that the present government is devoted to the welfare of the people and that is massive development programmes have been executed to bring about total welfare of the people. The government, he added, would give due importance to benevolent programme like setting up of hospitals.

He observed that the blindness is a curse and by taking preventive measures and treatment it can be removed to a great extent. The blind people can also be made to contribute towards national development, he said.

The CMLA, assured all government cooperation and help for development of the eye infirmary and training complex.

He thanked the friendly governments, the people and the voluntary organisations for their lavish assistance in completing the complex.

Dr Rabiul Hussain, Honorary General Secretary, Dr. A.F.M. Yusuf, Treasurer of BNSB, Miss Rosi Gollman, President of Andheri Hilfe, West Germany, Maj Gen (Retd) Paul A. Cullen, President of Foresight Australia, Mr Jony Burufss, Acting High Commissioner of UK Dr Ian Mithell, Australian High Commissioner and Mr Baron Von Marschal, Ambassador of FRG also spoke in the function.

CSO: 4600/1770

REPORTAGE ON DOHA'S ACTIVITIES IN AMMAN, PAKISTAN

Arab Peace Plan Supported

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 10 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] AMMAN Feb 9--Bangladesh fully supports the Arab 8-point plan for a just and durable peace in the Middle-East adopted by the 12th Arab summit held in Fez (Morocco) last September Foreign Minister A.R.S. Doha has said reports IINA.

'The plan is realistic and practical to end the Arab-Israeli conflict and realize peace in the region' he said in an interview published here today.

Mr. Doha was in Amman last Monday as a member of the entourage of Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad, who was on a visit to Jordan.

He called on the Islamic states to consolidate their cooperation and solidarity to counter the Zionist aggression and exert pressures on 'countries capable of halting it.' Mr. Doha considered the Iraq-Iran war and the Israeli occupation of Arab lands as two important causes facing the Islamic world.

He expressed the hope that the Islamic efforts to end the conflict between the two Muslim states would succeed.

The Bangladesh Minister said his country was hopeful that the forthcoming Non-Aligned summit in New Delhi next month would support Arab and Islamic efforts to solve the problem.

Banquet in Islamabad

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 10 Feb 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Feb. 9--Foreign Minister Mr. A. R. Shams-ud-Doha, has visualised enormous scope for developing bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan and expressed the confidence that the two countries could set a fine example of good neighbourliness, reports BSS.

Mr Doha was speaking at a dinner hosted in his honour by Pakistani Foreign Minister Shahabzada Yaqub Khan here last evening.

He said both Bangladesh and Pakistan had shared perceptions of "the world around us" and added, the two countries were committed, without ambiguity, to the UN charter, Organisation of the Islamic Conference and to the principles of Non-alignment.

Mr Doha pointed out that both the countries were committed to upholding the principles of sovereign equality, non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of states and peaceful settlement of disputes.

The Foreign Minister expressed deep concern at the presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan, Israeli occupation of Arab lands, and tragic Iraq-Iran war.

Mr Doha said that Bangladesh would stand by the side of Pakistani brethren "in the colonial problems they face in sheltering and feeding so large a community of homeless Afghans". "We equally share the grief and anguish of these unfortunate people who have become the innocent victims of aggression," he added.

The Foreign Minister reiterated Bangladesh's full support to the Arab peace plan and said, "we shall continue to share the struggle" for any unified action which could enable the Palestinian brethren to achieve their inalienable right to a homeland.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq war Mr Doha said, it was a tragedy of the first order. "Our Muslim brethren in both these countries want peace, and I am confident, notwithstanding the latest developments, that we shall find a way to bring this war to an end", he observed.

He expressed the belief that both Bangladesh and Pakistan could contribute substantially in this regard.

Turning to South Asian forum, the Foreign Minister said, the concept of regional cooperation in South Asia had made meaningful progress.

He said the essence of regional cooperation in the current setting was of vital importance and bears directly on the efforts under way in the North-South context.

Mr Doha said, the countries of South Asia had worked closely together towards hopefully bringing about the global round of negotiations "which when interpreted in real terms gives us substantial opportunities to face the state of the world economy on an equitable basis."

He also dwelt on the significant measures launched by the present Government particularly decentralisation of administration to enable the results of development activities to reach 68 thousand villages of Bangladesh.

Earlier, welcoming Mr Doha, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, Shahabzada Yaqub Khan, emphasised the need for growing cooperation between the two countries.

He lauded the initiative taken by Bangladesh for launching the idea of South Asian regional cooperation and for pursuing it with vigour and perseverance.

Islamabad Press Conference

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 12 Feb 83 pp 1, 16

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Feb. 11--The Foreign Minister Mr. A. F. Shams-ud-Doha, today described his visit to Pakistan as 'fruitful meaningful and useful', reports BSS.

Addressing a Press conference here before his departure for home at the end of a four-day official visit, Mr. Doha said that he had exchanged views with Pakistani leader on bilateral, regional and international issues.

He said that both Bangladesh and Pakistan had shared perceptions on all international issues and they could learn a lot from each other. In this context, Mr. Doha emphasised the need for frequent consultations between the two countries.

Replying to a question regarding the scope of cooperation at the forthcoming Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi, the Foreign Minister said 'obviously various political and economic issues' would figure at the conference. In view of their shared perceptions, both Bangladesh and Pakistan could stride to evolve ways and means to activate global round of negotiations and focus world attention to the need for transfer of the resources to the Third World and the energy problem he added.

He said, unless the gap between North and South was narrowed down the world recession would further deepen.

Mr. Doha referred to the Non-aligned Summit in Algiers in 1973 which was the forerunner of special UN session which helped initiate a comprehensive programme of action in this direction.

On the political plane, he said, both Bangladesh and Pakistan in general and the 42 Muslim countries of OIC who constitute the largest segment of Non-aligned Movement in particular could play a significant role to help resolve major world issues.

He made a pointed reference to Israeli aggression illegal occupation of the Arab land, the plight of the Palestinian brethren, the Afghanistan problem and the tragic Iran and Iraq war. Referring to Kampuchea he hoped that the situation there would not develop into another crisis like Afghanistan.

The Foreign Minister told a questioner that the South Asian regional cooperation had made commendable progress. It had already held three meetings at the Foreign Secretaries level and the next meeting was due to be held in Dhaka in the last week of March this year. Recounting the various phases, Mr Doha said, the study groups set up initially were followed by working groups and now efforts were being made to still widen the areas of cooperation.

Mr. Doha said that the Foreign Secretaries level meet in Dhaka would, among other things, decide the date for holding the Ministerial level meeting of the South Asian regional forum and explore further ways of cooperation.

Answering to another question he said, Bangladesh prayed for an early end to the fratricidal war and bloodshed between Iran and Iraq.

He said the Iranian Foreign Minister was due to visit Dhaka towards the end of this month. He said the Pakistan Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yakub Khan would go to Jordan and Iraq shortly.

Later, Mr. Doha was seen off at the airport by Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yakub Khan.

Also present at the airport were Bangladesh ambassador Quazi Golam Dastagir, Pakistan Ambassador to Bangladesh Mr. Tanveer Ahmed and senior officials of Pakistan Foreign Ministry.

Meanwhile, Mr. A. R. Shams-ud Doha, said here this evening that the growing cordial relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan could set tone to the growth of similar good neighbourly relations in the region.

He was speaking at a dinner hosted by him in honour of the Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yakub Khan.

Mr. Doha said that during his visit he had "extremely fruitful talks" with President Ziaul Haq and other Pakistani leaders. He expressed the confidence that these would contribute to a further consolidation of the existing friendly ties between the two countries.

Dwelling upon the problems which beset the developing countries, particularly those of South Asian region, he said; "we are on the one hand faced with protectionism from those whom we seek help and on the other are hard pressed to pay for the essential commodities and expertise to develop our economic". This gap, he said, must be narrowed down.

The Foreign Minister said that countries of the region should take significant steps in this regard when they meet in New Delhi during the Non-aligned Summit.

Mr. Doha, referred to the growing cooperation among the countries of the region within the framework of the South Asian regional forum. He made a strong plea for frequent exchange of visits between two countries with as little formalities as possible. He said the practice followed in Europe in this regard is worth examining.

CSO: 4600/1769

'SOME' PUNISHABLE OFFENSES UNDER MARTIAL LAW LISTED

Possession of Weapons, Other Offenses

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Some of the punishable offences under Martial Law Regulations:
Penalty for possession of illegal arms, explosive material etc.

(1) Whoever is found in possession of any firearm, ammunition explosive without a bona fide licence shall be punishable with death, or with transportation for life, or with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine or to suffer confiscation of the whole or any part of his property.

(2) Where any firearm, ammunition or explosive is found in any place and no person claims it to be his own, the owner or occupier of the place shall, unless he proves to the satisfaction of the Court that he was not aware of the existence of firearm, ammunition or explosive in such place, be deemed to be a person in possession of such firearm, ammunition or explosive without licence.

Explanation--For the purposes of these Regulations,

(a) "firearm, ammunition or explosive" include firearm, ammunition or explosive in any condition whatsoever, whether or not serviceable or live, and no examination by any arms, ammunition or explosive expert shall be necessary to prove whether or not any article or thing is a firearm, ammunition or explosive and whether or not any firearm, ammunition or explosive is serviceable or live;

(b) "Place" includes any house, building premises vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

14. Prohibition of political activities: No one shall either directly or indirectly participate in any political activity. Contravention of this Regulation shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine, "Explanation--In this Regulations "Political activity" shall include organising any political party canvassing, campaigning in public or private in respect thereof, providing financial or any other assistance to any political party or propagating the

cause of any political party in any other manner whatsoever including taking out a procession by or in favour of a political party and includes a group or combination of persons who are operating for the purpose of propagating any political opinion or indulging in any other political activity.

MLR 15. Penalty for criticising Martial Law. Whoever by word, either spoken or written, or by signs or visible representation or otherwise criticises the imposition operation or continuance of Martial Law or brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt or excites or attempt to excite disaffection towards the Chief Martial Law Administrator or any Zonal Martial Law Administrator or any other Martial Law Authority shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.

MLR 16. Penalty for creating panic, fear etc. Whoever by any means spreads reports calculated to create panic, fear or alarm or despondency shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall be liable to fine. bsa

MLR 17. Penalty for prejudicial acts.

(1) Whoever does any prejudicial act, or makes, prints, publishes; possesses or distributes any documents containing, or reads by any other means whatsoever, any prejudicial report shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine or to suffer confiscation of the whole or any part of his property.

(2) In this Regulation;

(a) "Prejudicial act" means any act which is intended or is likely--

(i) to prejudice national security or the defence of Bangladesh;

(ii) to prejudice the security or the public safety or interest of Bangladesh or the maintenance of peaceful condition in any part of Bangladesh;

(iii) to interfere with or encourage or incite interference with the administration of law or the maintenances of law and order;

(iv) to bring into hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection towards the Government;

(v) to instigate or incite directly or indirectly the commission or abetment of an offence punishable under Sections 121, 121A or 122 of the penal Code (Act XLV of 1960)

(b) "Prejudicial report" means any report, statement or visible representation whether true or false, which or the publishing of which, is or is an incitement to the commission of a prejudicial act.

Smuggling, Hoarding, Black Market

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Feb 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Penalty for smuggling: Whoever, in breach of any prohibition or restriction imposed by or under any law for the time being in force or evading payment of customs duties or taxes leviable thereon under any law for the time being in force, takes out of or conspires or makes preparation to take out of or brings into or conspires or makes preparation to bring into Bangladesh any goods including currency, shall without prejudice to any confiscation or penalty to which the goods or he may be liable under any law for the time being in force, be punishable with death or with transportation for life, or with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years, and shall also be liable to fine or to suffer confiscation of the whole or any part of his property.

Where any goods are seized in the reasonable belief that they have been smuggled into Bangladesh in contravention of any prohibition or restriction imposed by or under any law for the time being in force, the burden of providing that they are not smuggled goods shall be on the person from whose possession the goods are seized.

Penalty for hoarding, profiteering and dealing in black-market: Whoever is found guilty of the offence of hoarding, profiteering or dealing in the black-market shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years, and shall also be liable to fine.

A Martial Law Court convicting an offence of hoarding, profiteering or dealing in the black market shall order the forfeiture to Government of anything in respect of which the offence was committed.

Where an offence of hoarding, profiteering or deal in black-market is committed by a firm, company or other body corporate, every partner, director manager Secretary or other officer or agent thereof shall actively concerned in the conduct of the business of such firm, company or body corporate, be deemed to have committed the offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of the offences.

In this Regulations (a) "dealing in black-market" means otherwise than in accordance with any law; (i) selling, bartering exchanging, supply or disposing of articles rationed by or under any such law; or (ii) using or dealing with any licence permit or ration document issued by or under any such law:

(b) hoarding means stocking or storing anything in excess of the maximum quantity of that thing allowed to be held in stock storage at any one time by any person by or under any law;

(c) "profiteering" means selling or buying anything for purposes of trade at a price higher than the maximum price fixed by or under any law.

COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS IMPROVES

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Feb 83 p 12

[Text] RANGAMATI, Feb. 16--The state of health of cooperative movement in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, is better than what is expected reports BSS.

People of the district though handicapped by various obvious topographic reasons have so far evinced keen interest in the cooperative movement to improve their lot. It is through the cooperative societies they pool their resources and it is through these instruments they invest their capital. The cooperatives in their turn have paid them their dividends.

During the last few years the total number of cooperatives in different sectors have risen to 1,164 with a total membership of 51,282. Cooperative societies exist in various sectors like housing, weaving, agriculture and small and cottage industries sectors.

For two of the seven transport cooperative societies in the district bus and baby taxi services are suitably available. Others will also have their services in the near future. The housing cooperative society has been working for many years and is providing housing facilities to the members on top of all the cooperative societies. Fortysix model societies have been organised in the district and 15 more societies are in the process of being registered.

It is no mean success for the movement that 56 new co-operative societies have been organised by the settlers with a total membership of three thousand and five hundred.

Women weavers' societies have been running their organisations with the 10 count and 20 count cotton available scarcely in the locality.

Any difficulty in this sector is likely to be waived with the starting of production of the Rangamati Textile Mills at Ghagra. The management of the Rangamati Textile Mills told BSS that cotton yarn to be produced in the mills would be made available particularly to the weavers of the region. The 10 count and 20 count cotton will be produced in the mills, for the traditional "Kumar Taat" in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the source said.

During the last few months upto February 10 the total investment of various societies in the district stood at Taka 3,64,00,000 while the total recovery during the same period stood at Taka three crore and nine lakh, an official source said.

The total amount of share capital of these societies is Taka 13,10,245 only and the total amount of deposit is Taka 16,01,328.

The source said that the number of societies in the district is likely to increase further if the present momentum of forming a society can be maintained.

CSO: 4600/1779

FISH EXPORT EARNINGS EXCEED TARGET FOR CURRENT YEAR

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] The export of frozen fish shrimp and frog legs during the seven months from July last has exceeded the target fixed for the current financial year (1982-83) with an earning of Taka 112 crore 10 lakh in foreign exchange. The target fixed for the whole year was fixed at Taka 108 crore.

The countries where frozen fish was exported include Japan Belgium the Netherlands the USA France and Singapore. The total earning of Taka 112.10 crore from fish export was Taka 96.57 crore out of shrimp Taka 11.71 crore from frog legs and Taka 3.82 crore from fish.

The Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) has so far advanced over Taka 11 crore since 1977-78 to shrimp cultivators and other entrepreneurs engaged in marketing and processing of fish for raising the production and volume of export of these items. Out of the credit of over Taka 11 crore BKB has advanced Taka 2.25 crore to the fish cultivators of the coastal areas at Chittagong Cox's Bazar and Khulna since 1977-78. An amount of Taka six crore has been given for proper marketing processing of fish and ensuring fair prices to the growers. The BKB has also granted loan of Taka 3.16 crore as working capital for several on-going projects taken for boosting fish export. As many as 40 shrimp cultivation projects have been undertaken at Chokoria in Cox's Bazar and about the similar number of fish processing and freezing plants are located in other parts of the country.

Financial assistance rendered to other fish exporting agencies by the BKB has also helped exporting fish worth about Taka 32 crore during the last two and a half years.

Shrimps produced in Bangladesh has a great demand abroad. There are 38 varieties of shrimps in the country of which 12 types have high commercial value. Of these galda and bagda are very popular in foreign countries because of their quality and size. Galda is cultivated in sweet water while bagda is bred in saline water in coastal areas of Chittagong and Khulna.

CSO: 4600/1781

HOME MINISTER DISCUSSES UNIVERSITY DISTURBANCES

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 13 Feb 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Home Minister, Major-General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury, said in Dhaka on Friday that the Government would not hesitate to take drastic action to maintain an atmosphere conducive to education in the campus, reports BSS.

In case it becomes absolutely necessary in the larger interest of the country the Government will not have any other alternative but to take extreme actions anytime anywhere, the Minister said and asserted that congenial atmosphere for education in the campus must be ensured at any cost.

Addressing the War Chairmen of Dhaka Municipal Corporation and elite of the city Home Minister said that he had a very sympathetic and restraining attitude towards the students 'who are our own children and brothers'.

The Government, he said, had withdrawn police from the university campus and had called for restoration of atmosphere congenial to education in the campus.

ZMLA of Zone 'A' Major General Abdur Rahman and Inspector General of Police were also present on the occasion.

Recalling the steps taken by the Government in this respect, the Home Minister said that the Chief Martial Law Administrator and the Education Minister had held discussions on a number of occasions on student problems. Students having specific charges were freed, he said but deplored that some politicians were taking the Government's liberal attitude and magnanimity for its weaknesses. At the instigation of these politicians, some miscreants in the guise of students were creating chaos in the campus and disturbing peace and tranquility in educational institutions, he said.

Genl Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury said that the Government was not at all willing to take any drastic action against the students because in such event, he pointed out, majority of the general students become the worst sufferers.

The Minister said most of the guardians, being poor, had to go through hardship to bear the education expenses of their wards. In case of disturbance and chaos in the campus, education of general students is affected so, the guardians had to suffer economically, he added.

The Minister said the responsibility of maintaining peaceful conditions and proper environment in the educational institutions did not lie with the law-enforcing agencies alone. There is need for active cooperation of the teachers and guardians in this connection. The cooperation has to be 'spontaneous'.

Unfortunately, he added, the Government is not getting the cooperation. He hoped that all would lend the government their active cooperation to maintain peaceful and healthy conditions in the educational institutions in the greater interest of the nation.

The Minister said: 'You are aware that there is Martial Law in the country now. All political activities are banned. Despite this some political parties are doing political activities in the name of cultural and religious functions'.

'It is,' General Chowdhury said, 'not only unlawful but also immoral. The Chief Martial Law Administrator has clearly said that the present Martial Law Government has no political ambition. So, political leaders have no reason to be impatient.'

The Minister said they should not create hurdles in the way of governmental efforts for development by indulging in 'irresponsible acts' it would harm the greater national interest and the interest of commonman.

The Minister said the Martial Law Government was only ten-month-old and (you cannot expect any miracle in such a short span of time. By now the Government has already taken positive steps in the interest of the people in the field of education, agriculture, industry and land administration.

General Chowdhury said the Penal Code has been amended for speedy disposal of cases.

Selfish Design of Vested Interests

The Home Minister said that the main objective of the present Government was to improve the economic condition of the commonman to earn for the nation respect and regard from the world.

The Minister expressed his regret over the 'selfish design' of vested interests and said that this group has been trying to utilise students, youth force and workers in the mills and factories in order to fulfil its selfish interest.

The aim of these elements he said was to disrupt the developmental efforts and administrative reforms of the present Government. He added that they might be doing this out of acrimony not knowing the result of their provocation of these people. Their main attitude is to prove the efforts of the Government as failure.

Referring to the fact that the Martial Law government belonged to no particular party or section of people the Home Minister said that every section of

people had equal claim in the Armed Forces. For success or for failure in any duty by the Armed Forces would fetch either fame or shame to them, he observed.

The Home Minister said that the undesirable activities or intrigues on the part of these elements had been harming the people at large. He urged his audience to prevail upon these elements and persuade them to cooperate with the government and participate in the national developmental activities.

In a specific reference to the success of the present government the Home Minister said that the government deficit worth Taka three thousand and five hundred crore on March 24 1982 had turned into credit balance today. It was possible due to the accurate policy and earnest efforts of the Government he said.

We do not believe in unnecessary publicity of the success or achievement of the Government.

Education Policy

The Home Minister said some vested interest group motivated by selfish interest was making adverse criticism of the education policy of the Government.

They would have praised it rather than criticised it if they would have read it and realised the far-reaching results of the education policy he added.

The education policy had been formulated keeping in view the fact that the children were grown up as able and disciplined citizens and that they were vocationally employed according to their abilities he said.

The main aim of this education policy is to protect our children from the curse of unemployment through the introduction of productive and realistic education system by discarding the certificate-based system he said.

The Minister said that the CMLA had invited the students through the television radio and the heads of educational institutions for a discussion of their problems but regretted that they (students) did not turn up.

The Home Minister further said that quite a few committees had submitted reports on the education policy since 1947 and each of them recommended changing the policy adopted by the then British rulers. But the vested interest group did not allow the implementation of those recommendations because their (vested interest group) motive had been to keep our people uneducated and dependent on others the Home Minister pointed out.

Standard Publications

The Minister further said that he was compelled to say with regret that after 1947 until today none in the country got the least opportunity to come forward with the idea of standard and improved publications. He said that it happened because there was an interested quarter; which wanted to keep them dependent and turn this country of ours into a market.

Praising their sincerity the Home Minister said that it was the responsibility of the Ward Chairmen of the Dhaka Municipal Corporation to look after peace and discipline in the city which is the need of the hour.

The Minister hoped that the Ward Chairmen would play their role to discharge their duties and responsibilities with utmost sincerity and would extend their earnest co-operation to the success of the development efforts of the Government

The Home Minister said that a section of touts often try to influence the police by various tricks to serve their own selfish ends which in turn cause harm to the peaceloving people. You can easily identify these touts and take steps against them; he said adding you should at the same time keep vigilance so that the touts cannot establish connections with the police.

Traffic Problem

Turning to the traffic system in the city General Chowdhury said that controlling the traffic in the city had become a problem. He said that the rickshaws being the main transport in the city; rickshaw pullers should be educated about the traffic regulations for maintaining traffic discipline. Without your cooperation; it is not possible for the police to control traffic in the city he added.

Regarding the city cleanliness the Home Minister said that the responsibility to keep the city trim and clean also mainly vested on the ward chairmen. He hoped that the ward chairmen would be more serious in keeping their respective areas clean and tidy.

The Home Minister said that the ward chairmen should review the law and order situation of their localities from to time and also suggest the law enforcing agencies in this regard.

Gen Chowdhury said that the law and order situation in the city to a great extent depended on the role of the chairmen and their cooperation with the Government.

He observed that maintenance of peaceful atmosphere was the precondition for development and hoped that the ward chairmen would extend their active cooperation to the Government in this respect.

The Home Minister told the meeting that tendency of committing crimes had increased a bit in the urban areas. This tendency is to be curbed and the accomplishment of this task is not possible without your active help he added.

Gen Chowdhury urged the ward chairmen to identify the criminals and anti-social elements in their localities and give such informations to the police. You should also help the police when they will undertake search to catch hold of these criminals and anti-social elements; he added.

PROJECT TO INTRODUCE METRIC SYSTEM APPROVED

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] A development project for gearing up the campaign for introduction of metric system in the country and strengthening of the Bangladesh Standards Institution has been approved by the Chief Martial Law Administrator recently, says a PID handout.

The project involves a total expenditure of Tk. 103.34 lakh with a foreign exchange component of Tk. 50.81 lakh. Its main objectives are introduction of the metric system of weights and measures in the country, its standardization and quality control of various products. With the introduction of his new system the old cumbersome systems of measurement will be discarded and in its place internationally recognized metric system which is easy and simple will be introduced.

For efficient implementation of the project, four Meteorology Laboratories/Inspectorates will be established in Dhaka, Chittagong; Rajshahi and Khulna. Besides, sensitive measuring and calibrating equipment will be procured from within the country as well as from abroad for standardization of measurement system.

It may be recalled here that the Government already promulgated an Ordinance under the title "The Standards of Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1982." As per provision of the Ordinance necessary gazette notifications, have also been issued prescribing the time-table for phase-wise introduction of the system in different organisations."

Posters on metric system have already been circulated for publicity among the masses. Folders and conversion tables are also being circulated. With the help of Local Government organisation people in the villages and market places have been informed of the system by drum beating. In addition to these, arrangement has been made to publicise the system through various publicity media. BDIS has already authorised eleven local firms to manufacture weights in the metric system locally.

It is hoped that by 1985 the metric measurements will be introduced in all sectors and organisations throughout the country.

CSO: 4600/1767

BRIEFS

DPRK TEAM DEPARTS--The visiting Deputy Foreign Minister of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, Mr. Kim Jae Suk and other members of the DPRK delegation left-Dhaka on Wednesday morning for Kathmandu on way back home ending their three day visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS. They were seen off at the airport by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. A. H. S. Ataul Karim The DPRK Charge d' Affaires to Bangladesh, Mr. Kim Jong In was also present at the airport to see them off. During the visit, the DPRK delegation called on the DCMLAs-Rear Admiral M. A. Khan and Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud and the Agriculture Minister Mr. A. Z. M. Obaidullah Khan. The delegation also held two rounds of formal talks at the Foreign Office. It visited Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI) and Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) at Joydevpur. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Feb 83 p 3]

AUSTERITY SAVINGS--CHITTAGONG, Feb 10--Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad said today that his government had saved Taka 400 crore in the last ten months through austerity and reduction in unnecessary expenditures. He was addressing the newly appointed chairmen and members of Chittagong municipal ward committees and a cross-section of people at the outer stadium here this morning. The CMLA sounding a note of warning against misappropriation, said his government had allocated an amount of Taka 1.74 crore for the 'Food for Work' programme for the current year. [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Feb 83 p 1]

TEA EXPORTS RISE--CHITTAGONG, Feb. 11--Bangladesh exported about 53.50 million pounds of tea worth about 82.78 crore taka during the first seven months of the current fiscal year. This was about Taka 78 lakh more than the target of earning Taka 82 crore exporting 76 million pounds of tea this year. Tea Traders expect earning to go over 100 crore taka when the year is out. Bangladesh had exported over 65 million pounds of tea worth about 66.48 crore taka in 80-81. It went up to about taka 76.02 crore through export of 69 million pounds of tea. Bangladesh exported 48 per cent of the tea to Pakistan, 20 per cent to the United Kingdom, 10 per cent to Poland, 10 per cent to the USSR, 10 per cent to Egypt and 2 per cent to others. The main world tea exporters are: Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, Kenya and Malaya. Big tea importers of the world are: UK, West Germany, USSR, USA, Pakistan and Morocco. Tea traders in Chittagong feel that for our own safety we must look for new markets of southern neighbours like Australia, New Zealand and Muslim countries like Sudan, Morocco and other Gulf states. The production of tea this season (from January to December '82) is 89.1 million pounds as against 91 million pounds in 1981. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 13 Feb 83 p 1]

USSR CARPET PURCHASE--Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) will export over one lakh 17 thousand square metres of jute carpet worth Tk. 1.86 crore to the Soviet Union under an agreement signed in Dhaka on Monday reports BSS. Mr. Enamul Haque Director Marketing BJMC and Mr. V. N. Pugaev signed the accord on behalf of their respective organisations according to a BJMC Press release. The shipment of the carpet will be made between March and August this year. With this the total sale of jute carpet by BJMC from the beginning of this fiscal year to date stands at more than 2.5 lakh square metres worth over Taka four crore. During the whole of last fiscal year (July 1981-June 1982) BJMC earned only Tk. 1.9 crore by exporting 72 thousand square metres of jute carpet. During 1980-81 fiscal year the beginning year of Golden Tiger carpet production BJMC earned only Tk. 532 lakh by exporting 27 thousand square yards of jute carpet. This trend shows that BJMC's jute carpet is drawing wide international attention. Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation exports jute carpet to more than 15 countries of which the Soviet Union is the largest single buyer. The other major jute carpet buyers of BJMC include the United States, West Germany, Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Meanwhile the response to BJMC carpets at the 'Helmstedt til' carpet and rug fair in West Germany is very encouraging. During the fair BJMC secured a number of direct orders for the sale of jute carpet. The Swedish company has even placed order to BJMC for three years. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 83 p 1]

BURMESE BARGE IS SEIZED--CHITTAGONG, Feb. 14--The Bangladesh Rifles seized two Burmese barges and arrested its 10 passengers from Bangladesh territorial waters of the Bay of Bengal near St. Martin's Island of Cox's Bazar Sub-division on Saturday. According to the Bangladesh Rifles source all the arrested persons are Burmese nationals. The BOR suspect that they are involved in smuggling of goods between Burma and Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Rifles personnel boarded and searched these two barges and rounded them up. A case has been registered with Cox's Bazar Thana in this connection. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 83 p 12]

BD-NICARAGUA TIES--Bangladesh and Nicaragua have decided to establish diplomatic relations between them at ambassadorial level with effect from today. The decision was officially announced in Dhaka on Monday reports BSS. The announcement said the decision was taken with a view to developing friendly relations between the two countries on the principles of equality and mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each others internal affairs. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 83 p 5]

AMBASSADOR APPOINTED--The Government have decided to concurrently accredit Mr. Muzibur Ahmed Bhuiyan, at present Ambassador of Bangladesh to Belgium, as Ambassador to Luxembourg. It was officially announced in Dhaka on Monday reports BSS. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 83 p 8]

VISA WAIVER AGREEMENT--Bangladesh and Republic of Korea have signed Visa Waiver Agreement facilitating travel between the two countries, says a PID handout. The instruments of agreement were signed on Tuesday at Dhaka, by Mr. M. K. Uddin, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Mr. Nye YolMoon, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Bangladesh on behalf of their respective Governments.

Under the provisions of the agreement any national of one country may visit the other without obtaining an entry visa in advance provided the intended stay does not exceed 90 days and is not for employment. The agreement will also provide some facilities to the nationals of both the countries in possession of Seamens' Books in connection with transit travel in Bangladesh and Korea. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Feb 83 p 1]

BANGLADESH, NIGER TIES--Bangladesh and Niger have decided to establish diplomatic relations between them at ambassadorial level it was officially announced in Dhaka on Thursday reports BSS. The announcement said the decision was taken with a view to developing the existing friendly and cooperative relations between two countries. [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 Feb 83 p 1]

NEW ZEALAND ENVOY--Mr D.K. McDowell has been appointed High Commissioner of New Zealand to Bangladesh with residence in Wellington, it was officially announced in Dhaka on Thursday, reports BSS. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 Feb 83 p 8]

000000/1841

DELHI CONCERNED OVER BUILDUP ON AFGHANISTAN BORDER

Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Feb 83 p -

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI Feb 10

The Babrak Karmal Government has agreed to discuss with Iran and Pakistan a settlement of the Afghan problem utilising the good offices of the U.N. Secretary General's special emissary Mr. Diego Cordovez, but not under the auspices of the United Nations which had adopted resolutions condemning Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

During his latest visit to Teheran, Mr. Cordovez was not able to persuade Iran to negotiate directly with the present Afghan Government, but he met with better response during his talks in Islamabad on the subject.

The Iranian leaders not only refused to deal with any Afghan Government imposed by the Soviet Union, but insisted that the Afghan seat at the Delhi non-aligned summit should be kept vacant, following the Kampuchean precedent, as long as Afghanistan was under Soviet military occupation.

The Pakistan Government, on the other hand, indicated its readiness to engage in an informal dialogue at a lower level that would not amount to a *de jure* recognition of the Babrak Karmal Government. But since Pakistan continues to maintain a *de facto* relationship with it by keeping its embassy in Kabul open and letting the Afghan mission in Islamabad function, it sees no harm in talking to representatives of the Karmal regime privately without the appearance of formal discussions.

Geneva talks: The Afghan and Pakistan Governments did depute their Foreign Ministers to Geneva in June last year, and the Iranian Government authorised its local representative to engage in a shadow dialogue through the U.N. special emissary.

Mr. Cordovez has been visiting Kabul, Islamabad and Teheran to keep up this shadow dialogue in one form or the other, in the hope that sooner or later these countries would agree to engage in direct discussions.

The U.N. Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, who served as the special representative on Afghanistan under his predecessor, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, is well acquainted with the complexities of the problem having talked to the heads of the three governments during his visits to Kabul, Islamabad and Teheran. It was his efforts that paved the way for the three-cornered dialogue in Geneva last year with his nominee, Mr. Cordovez, acting as an indirect channel of communication. These talks are to be continued in Geneva in April a little more openly between Afghan and Pakistani representatives even if Iran refuses to participate in them.

Bid for direct talks: During his visit to Delhi early next month to address the non-aligned summit, Mr. de Cuellar proposes to talk to the heads of the Afghan, Pakistani and Iranian delegations to bring about direct talks among the three governments. The proposals he has placed before them provide for the withdrawal of Soviet troops, adequate international guarantees of non-interference, creation of conditions for the return of four million Afghan refugees and some form of elections to install a government in Kabul that will preserve the non-aligned character of the country without being unfriendly to the Soviet Union.

The U.N. Secretary-General intends to discuss the Afghan issue with the new Soviet leader, Mr. Yuri Andropov, during his visit to Moscow towards the end of March. If he meets with some encouraging response, he proposes to have a similar talk with the U.S. President, Mr. Ronald Reagan in Washington.

Mr. de Cuellar would like to ascertain the views of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, when he meets her during the non-aligned conference. He is reported to be keen

that the Delhi summit should adopt a flexible stand leaving the door open for a negotiated settlement without making any harsh references to the Afghan problem that could be misconstrued by Moscow as a further condemnation of its action.

Concern over reports: Meanwhile, the regional countries like India are concerned over reports that, in addition to 11 infantry divisions, the Soviet Union is deploying many squadrons of highly sophisticated fighter-bombers at the new air bases it has built in Afghanistan. The western observers also feel that the Soviet Union has acquired a capability to make its air power felt over the Persian Gulf area, including the Straits of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman.

There are also reports of construction of new bases in the North-West Frontier Province, Sind and Baluchistan which would be available to the U.S. in the event of a confrontation with the Soviet Union in this sensitive region. The U.S. is also reported to be supplying, in addition to the F-16S, the latest ground radar and aerial surveillance aircraft to monitor the Soviet air activity in Afghanistan.

CSO: 4600/1790

ANALYST DISCUSSES DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INDIA, PAKISTAN

Madras THE HINDU in English 10 Feb 83 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 9

There are reports that Pakistan is prepared to dovetail its no-war proposal into the more comprehensive Indian offer of a friendship treaty if the two countries could work out a mutually acceptable formulation combining the concept of abjuring the use of force for settling disputes with a more positive understanding for increased cooperation.

But the desire to achieve a quicker breakthrough is not matched by a readiness on the part of Pakistan to shed some of its earlier reservations over the scope and purpose of the proposed treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation.

The basic differences between the two countries still persist over the very basis for a non-aggression pact with or without a treaty of friendship, since Pakistan continues to oppose the Indian suggestion that they should not only renounce the right to resort to force to settle disputes but also desist from entering into alliances with or leasing bases to third powers that could disturb the peace and tranquillity in the sub-continent.

There is no indication so far that Pakistan is ready to resile from its stand that, though it has no intention of entering into a military alliance or leasing bases to any foreign power, it could not be expected to renounce these sovereign rights for ever by entering into a commitment that no other non-aligned country is called upon to do so to prove its bona fides. It is equally reluctant to forsake the option to raise in an international forum any dispute that cannot be settled through bilateral discussions.

Not insurmountable: Though the two countries have not yet been able to narrow

down these differences, they agree that these are not insurmountable barriers that cannot be overcome, given the necessary goodwill on both sides. The dialogue on some of the basic aspects of a no-war concept will be pursued during Gen. Zia-ul-Haq's visit to Delhi early next month for the non-aligned summit.

If the two heads of Government are able to agree at least in principle on a broadly acceptable formulation, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan could engage in detailed discussions at the next round of official level talks to evolve a combined draft, meshing the no-war concept into a comprehensive treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation.

The Pakistan President appears to be keen on an early conclusion of such an agreement, since it would open the way for seeking Indian support to his country's desire to get back into the Commonwealth at the next heads of Government conference in November in Delhi. It was India's opposition at the last conference in Melbourne that blocked Pakistan's re-admission.

As in the case of the non-aligned community, the Commonwealth also is governed by the consensus principle. Though countries like Australia, Britain, Canada and New Zealand wanted Pakistan to rejoin the Commonwealth, they could not get it re-admitted in the face of India's opposition.

If the two countries sign a no-war pact in one form or the other and agree to work for closer cooperation, there can be no justification for India to stand in the way of the re-admission of Pakistan. And this consideration seems to be playing some part in the Pakistani attempts to step up the pace of the no-war dialogue despite the persisting differences over the very concept of such an agreement.

INDO-SOVIET SPACE RESEARCH SEMINAR HELD IN BANGALORE

Opening Session Reported

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] Bangalore, Feb 21--Indian Space Commission chairman and head of the Indian Space Research Organisation Prof Satish Dhawan has expressed his optimism that cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in the field of space research has great scope in further advancement in this sphere.

Addressing the inaugural session of the five-day Indo-USSR seminar-cum-workshop on space research at the Indian Institute of Sciences here today Prof Dhawan said "while Indian and Soviet scientists like late Vikram Sarabhai, H.G.S. Murthy and Prof M.G.K. Menon and Soviet space scientists like Kalrish, Fedorov and Prof Novikov made important contributions to the development of this cooperation between the two countries during the last two decades, there were many more areas in which this cooperation could be further expanded successfully.

Identifying these areas of further cooperation, Prof Dhawan pointed out that since there were excellent astronomical research facilities available in the Soviet Union and India, cooperation in this field could also be beneficial to both the countries.

Other fields noted for cooperation by Prof Dhawan were atmospheric sciences and meteorology, satellite technology, optical tracing and remote sensing.

He particularly noted two specific problems which were posing a major challenge before the two countries. He said "building up spacecrafts which can process data on board was a major challenge for future because such processing can directly help large scale users on ground.

Prof Dhawan while expressing his hope that the seminar-cum-workshop would deliberate on details of these programmes emphasised the need to discuss "negative results" of space programmes to draw correct conclusions for future plans.

earlier welcoming the 20 member Soviet delegation led by academician Kotelnikov, chairman Intecomos Council of USSR Academy of Sciences, Prof Dhawan lauded the cooperation between Indian and the USSR in space research.

He said, "Our Government has extended special support to the programmes to be jointly carried out by the two countries in fields like astronomy and meteorology in the coming years."

Reciprocating the feeling expressed by Prof Dhawan, leader of the Soviet delegation, academician Kotelnikov said, "I fully appreciate and support evaluation and assessment made by Prof Dhawan and others about cooperation between India and Soviet Union and hope that this will be further extended."

He further said, "Over 10 years have passed since this cooperation took a concrete shape in the form of an agreement on 10 May 1972 under which the Soviet Union agreed to launch Indian satellite Aryabhata. This is a short period of history but great achievements have been made during this short span."

Appreciating the progress made by India in the field of space research, academician Kotelnikov said, "During this short span, India has achieved remarkable progress by setting up various technical facilities for space operations at ISRO."

Talking about cooperation between the two countries, he said, "I can say with great satisfaction that all joint activities in space research by our two countries were carried out in an atmosphere of great understanding."

Referring to the proposed joint Indo-Soviet space mission in 1984, academician Kotelnikov said that after the summit-level agreement reached between the two countries in September 1982, the two future Indian cosmonauts Squadron Leader Malhotra and Wing Commander Sharma have been going through advance training on telemetry etc. for the joint flight planned in the spring of 1984."

The five-day session which will conclude on 25 February will sum up the conclusions of discussion on the final day by adopting recommendations of both teams for future joint programmes in space research.

Protocol on Space Research

THIRU THE HINDU In English 26 Feb 83 p 1

Next paragraph . The 24--India and the Soviet Union today signed a protocol for future cooperation in space research.

The protocol covers different aspects of future cooperation in space research with particular reference to remote sensing, astronomy and astrophysics, meteorology and atmospheric sciences, tracking of satellites and space technology.

The protocol was signed by Prof S. Dhawan, Indian Space Commission Chairman and Academician Sava Kotelnikov, leader of the 19-member Soviet delegation at the conclusion of a five-day joint Indo-USSR seminar-cum-workshop on space research.

The seminar reviewed various facets of Indo-USSR cooperation in space research over the last 20 years. There was also a special session dealing with the proposed joint manned flight in the first half of 1984.

During the workshop, specific proposals were made by both the sides for discussions to provide a framework for future cooperation. These included possibility of using ground-based facilities, both in India and in the Soviet Union, for research in astronomy and for flying Indian payloads in Soviet spacecraft for scientific studies. Planning of coordinated experiments for studies in upper atmosphere and ionosphere and joint scientific investigations of important problems of meteorology were also discussed.

Feasibility of using the optical tracking network in both the countries for precise determination of the trajectory of Halley's comet was also discussed.

In his concluding remarks, Prof Dhawan said the two sides had wide ranging discussions and some positive contacts were made to expand the potential areas of cooperation. The specifics would be worked out in future meetings taking into consideration factors like time element and budget.

The areas of cooperation specially examined were astronomy, atmospheric sciences, satellite technology and science and technology of earth observation.

Mr Kotelnikov said the proposals of cooperation made during the discussions would be examined and implemented as soon as possible.

Assessing the results of cooperation in preparation and launching of the earth satellites, Mr Kotelnikov said "We should stress that the work was done in a very creative and friendly atmosphere of understanding." "Participation of our experts in this field will continue, he added.

DD: 1980/1825

FREIGHT CUTS FOR IMPORTS FROM RUSSIA STUDIED

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Feb 83 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 22--A reduction in freight rates has been mooted for certain select commodities which the Soviet Union is in a position to offer to India.

The objective of this proposal which is awaiting the Finance Ministry's approval is to make the landed cost of these commodities comparable with those offered by other countries and thereby help increase purchases from the Soviet Union.

In recent years, Indian exports to the Soviet Union have been substantially higher than imports from that country and the continuing trade imbalance has affected adversely the generation of rupee resources for the Soviet Union to pay for the purchases from India. To meet the shortfall, the Government of India provides credit which is cleared as and when purchases are made from the Soviet Union. Last year, credit to the tune of Rs 500 crores was provided for this purpose.

This trend has caused concern to India as it comes in the way of efforts to boost exports to the Soviet Union. The remedy is in stepping up purchases from the Soviet Union.

Among the items India needs to import and the Soviet Union can offer are fertilizers and sulphur. The Agriculture Ministry has yet to decide on the quantum of fertilizer imports for 1983, but pending that, in order to help generate rupee funds (to pay for Soviet purchases), the MMTC has been asked to contract for the purchase of a specified quantity. A Soviet delegation for negotiating this deal is expected in the first week of March.

Meanwhile the move for reducing the freight rate has been initiated to facilitate the deal. Under Indo-Soviet shipping arrangement, the freight rates are higher than those of the other Conference lines and this has made the landed cost of fertilizers from the Soviet Union higher than that from other countries. On commercial considerations, the MMTC prefers importing from other countries.

As far as the Government is concerned, it stands to gain from the higher freight rates as the earnings are to be equally shared by Indian and Soviet Governments. It has now proposed a reduction in the freight rates for select commodities to remove one of the factors inhibiting larger purchases from the Soviet Union.

Besides this, certain proposals are contemplated to increase imports from the Soviet Union. A team of officials from the Union Textile Department is expected to visit the Soviet Union next month to explore the possibilities of purchasing textile machinery and other items. As a sequel to this, the export of textile products will be explored.

The Soviet Union is also being persuaded against reducing the purchase of cashewnut from India.

The reason advanced by the Soviet Union for not buying cashewnut is that the exporters are quoting high prices. But according to informed sources, the real reason is that Moscow has adequate supply of alternative nuts. Afghanistan has surplus stocks of almonds which the Soviet Union is required to take. However, through the Indian Embassy in Moscow, the Commerce Minister has urged his Soviet counterpart to review the decision and take Indian commodities as in the past.

(Ref: 4000/1331)

TWO NEW GRANT AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH BRITAIN

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Feb 83 p 5

[Text] Britain will give grants worth about Rs 92 crores to India under two agreements signed on Saturday, reports UNI.

British High Commissioner Sir Robert Wade-Gery and Secretary for Economic Affairs M. Narasimham signed the documents.

The first grant for 31 million pounds sterling (about Rs 47 crores) is for the Indian coal sector and will provide funds to finance the development of India's underground and open-case coal mines.

Since 1975 Britain has provided 21 million pounds (about Rs 32 crores) for the development of the coal sector.

The second grant for 30 million pounds (Rs 45 crores) provides funds for the purchase of goods and services from Britain by the Indian railway sector.

A British High Commission release says Britain recognises that the railway sector is one of India's priority areas for development, and is keen to support the Indian Government's plans for railway modernisation.

Britain provides over 100 million pounds (over Rs 150 crores) of aid to India annually, all in grant form.

The grant meant for the coal sector will be used for mechanised longwall mining equipment as well as opencast mining equipment, a Government announcement said.

Agreements for further grants worth about Rs 46 crores (30 million pounds) for power sector imports and of Rs 60 crores (39.03 million pounds) as local costs aid for 1982-83 are expected to be signed shortly.

So far, Britain has given assistance worth Rs 2,507 crores to India including the present grants.

CSO: 4600/1822

EXPERTS' FOREIGN POLICY PANEL UNDER CONSIDERATION

MADRAS THE HINDU in English 12 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 11--Mr P. Shiv Shanker, Union Energy Minister, said here today that tests in the offshore Godavari basin had indicated the presence of both crude oil and gas.

The Minister, addressing the first meeting of the reconstituted parliamentary consultative committee attached to his Ministry said that crude oil production in the country had gone up by 30 percent in the first 10 months of the current financial year over last year. At the end of January the production amounted to 17.05 million tonnes of oil. The foreign exchange saving on this account was estimated at Rs 600 crores.

Mr Shiv Shanker said that during the current year, hydrocarbons (oil and gas) had been struck in three structures in Gujarat at Ognaj, Morhea and Ognaj. Further drilling was in progress to assess the reserves. A well drilled in a structure 200 kms west of Bombay had given a gas flow amounting to 125,000 cubic metres per day plus 445 barrels of oil. There were a number of structures in this area and the prospects of discovering further quantities of oil and gas had improved.

In Tripura gas had flowed from a new structure in the Gojalia-1 well at the rate of 4,600 cubic metres per day. This indicated that there could be substantial reserves of gas.

The Minister said that the refining capacity had increased from 31.3 million tonnes to 37.5 million tonnes. In the first ten months of 1982-83 the total crude processed in the refineries was 9.6 percent more than during the same period last year. The catalytic cracker in the Mathura refinery had started operation and the Koyali refinery cracker was expected to commence operation by the end of February. With this, the availability of cooking gas will be 6.21 lakh tonnes.

Coal production, which had remained stagnant for some years before 1980-81 had gone up and in 1981-82 a production of 124.90 million tonnes had been achieved as against 113.96 million tonnes in the preceding year. In the first ten months of the current year 102.82 million tonnes of coal had been produced. Despatches to the consuming sectors also had gone up.

New Coal Projects

During 1982-83 the government had sanctioned 12 new coal projects to be able to achieve higher targets of production. Another 56 projects were now at different stages of appraisal and scrutiny.

CSD: 4600/1793

ENERGY MINISTER REPORTS TO PARLIAMENTARY PANEL

Madras THE HINDU in English 12 Feb 83 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI Feb. 11.

The Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, is considering a suggestion for setting up a committee of experts to advise the Government on the geopolitical and strategic aspects of foreign policy on the same lines as the Council of Economists that is being constituted to review policies and recommend changes for stimulating development.

The proposed committee, if and when created, will function as an apex body advising the Prime Minister on the option open to the Government in formulating its policies in pursuit of the country's external interests.

The idea was actively considered a year ago, but was subsequently given up because Mrs. Gandhi's advisers could not agree on the exact functions of such a committee in the Indian context, if the intention was not to set up something like the National Security Council in the U.S. that would not easily enmesh into a cabinet system. As a stop-gap arrangement, a core group of some select non-officials and senior officials was set up to meet as and when required to take a close look at both internal and external policies in the light of the changing imperatives.

New drive: Now the earlier idea is being revived as part of the new drive to streamline the decision-making processes and ensure proper implementation of policy decisions. But very little thinking has been done on the nature and scope of the advisory role of the proposed committee of

political experts, whether it is in the internal or external spheres.

In the case of the council of economic experts too, the Government has no clear idea yet of what exactly it should do, and how it should function, in relation to the Finance Ministry if the Planning Commission is going to provide the Secretariat and support organisation for it. Its terms of reference will be finalised only after settling its composition and deciding whether it is going to be a quasi-permanent organisation or subject to a limited tenure to start with.

Meanwhile, the Government has extended the two-year tenure of the Economic Administration Reforms Commission headed by Mr. L. K. Jha by three months to enable it to complete its reports by June 30, 1983. But Mr. Jha will continue as a one-man commission initially for one more year to advise the Prime Minister on issues referred to him.

One of the suggestions under consideration is that he should be requested to preside over the meetings of the economic council that is being set up, while functioning independently as a one-man commission to let this group have the benefit of his vast experience.

An essential pre-requisite to efficient utilisation of the advice given by all these expert bodies is that the principal ministries of the Central Government should be headed by men of political stature and administrative experience. So there is talk of further Cabinet changes to improve the quality of economic administration to the extent possible in the present circumstances.

VICE PRESIDENT SUGGESTS ELIMINATION OF SMALL PARTIES

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 10 Feb 83 p 15

[Text] Berhampore (Orissa), Feb 9 (PTI)--The Vice-president, Mr M. Hidayatullah, today suggested derecognition of those political parties that had not received one sixth of the total votes cast in the last elections as a first step towards improving the country's political system.

Addressing the 12th convocation of the Berhampore University where he was conferred an honorary degree of law, Mr Hidayatullah warned that "democracy was in peril" in the absence of a stable party system and unless the menace of too many parties was broken.

By eliminating petty parties as suggested, he estimated that their number would dwindle to not more than four with all smaller groups vanishing. Parties, he said, would also shun splits, dissident groups would lose electoral standing and there would be less room for independent candidates and more chance of stable governments.

Stating that a party getting less than 50 percent of popular votes would not be able to govern in peace, the vice-president said in the prevailing multi-party system in the country the energy of each party was directed towards acquisition of political power. Parliamentary government and, afortiori, parliamentary democracy, he felt, was "proving a tax on the wealth of our nation and the assets of the people, but is not itself a source of wealth or well-being."

Stable Governments

Lauding the two-party system in the United Kingdom, he said democracy in the UK made for stable governments with stable policies and were not given to extremes.

Mr Hidayatullah regretted that with so many parties there was no clear-cut pattern and the voter exercised his franchise with the candidate in mind and not for what he was expected to achieve. Moreover, candidates at times change their affiliations "if some advantage is thrown their way."

Mr. Nkrumah said when the decision of majority in the legislature came through the amalgamation of diverse groups having no common ideology, "they are willing to cut the throats of their coalition colleagues. It is only an adverse vote which denies a clear majority which makes them come together illustrating the proverb that necessity makes strange bedfellows."

Working in the education system, he suggested a conference of vice-chancellors and educationists with experience in teaching and educational planning who would work out a programme of need-based education through technical and other institutions.

Advocating radical change and overhaul of the entire system, he regretted that those in charge of education were apathetic and unresponsive, "letting things drift." This, he analysed, was the result of the disturbed political scene which left little time to "think, plan and act."

Dr. Nkrumah

BHARATIYA JANATA EXECUTIVE 12 FEB MEETING REPORTED

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 13 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] Jaipur, Feb 12--Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee today withdrew his resignation as president of the Bharatiya Janata Party at the request of the BJP national executive which met here, report PTI and UNI. The executive meeting, under the chairmanship of the party vice-president, Mr Ram Jethmalani, refused to accept his resignation.

Party sources said the meeting took up Mr Vajpayee's resignation as the first item on the agenda. The executive members were "unanimous" in their opinion that Mr Vajpayee should continue as the party president. Mr Vajpayee was not present when the issue was taken up, but attended the session as an ordinary member when he arrived in the afternoon.

Mr Vajpayee told the members that it was "the political and moral duty of the party president to accept the responsibility of an electoral defeat." Mr Ram Jethmalani reportedly countered this by saying that it was the duty of the party president to accept the verdict of the national executive.

Mr Jethmalani went to the extent of "threatening" that all members of the executive would resign if Mr Vajpayee did not comply with their wishes, the sources said.

More than 10 members were present when the decision not to accept Mr Vajpayee's resignation was taken up. The national executive has 83 members. When Mr Vajpayee arrived at the meeting, he was greeted by hundreds of slogan-wielding party workers, urging him to withdraw his resignation.

Mr Jethmalani later told reporters that the national executive, in turning down Mr Vajpayee's request to relinquish office as party president felt that the BJP had to, for the sake of the nation, continue to avail of his services. "Mr Vajpayee succumbed to the unanimous will of the executive and withdrew his resignation," he said.

Mr Jethmalani categorically denied that there was any rift in the party over Mr Vajpayee's resignation. "It is wild imagination and a malicious lie which must be laid to rest." He said that while the BJP did not conceal its disappointment over the results of the Delhi elections, the party did not regard them as a great disaster or cause for dismay.

The national executive felt that whatever the party has achieved was in a small measure due to the contributions of Mr Vajpayee. The executive appreciated the statesmanship and the commitment to democratic traditions of Mr Vajpayee in tendering his resignation and reaffirmed its faith in his leadership.

A mass delegation of the elected members of the BJP, led by Mr L.K. Advani will meet the Chief Election Commissioner in New Delhi on February 14 to demand postponement of the Assam elections, Mr Jethmalani said.

The elected members, including M.P.s, members of the Delhi Metropolitan Council and the Corporation, would march to the Election Commission's office in a procession to tell him that no free and fair elections were possible in Assam in the present situation.

Mr Jethmalani said that Mrs Gandhi was going ahead with the Assam election even though there is a Congress (I) Government in that State and more Congress MPs are in Parliament.

Mr Jethmalani said he felt that the Prime Minister wanted to have the Prime Minister's Office in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha for a constitutional amendment which would be "very significant for her and her party."

END

WRITER QUESTIONS REALISM OF PLAN TARGETS

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Feb 83 p 8

[Article by S.S. Padmanabhan]

[Text] "The Plan has flopped": "There is hardly anything left in the Plan." "The Plan is in a crisis." These were the observations made by some Opposition members during a debate on the Sixth Plan in the Lok Sabha last November. While one may dismiss these as overstatements expected from the Opposition, the fact remains that Plan performance has not been up to expectations and has given rise to the feeling that the physical targets set for 1984-85 are difficult to achieve.

A mid-term appraisal of the Plan was expected by November-December 1982, based on which the annual Plans for the remaining two years could be formulated. But this did not materialise. According to the Planning Minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, the review has been postponed and it is now expected only by March-April 1983. Meanwhile, the annual Plans of State Governments and the Central Ministries for 1983-84 have been finalised, obviously based on the Planning Commission's own assessment of the performance so far.

According to the Annual Plan document for 1982-83, the average growth rate in the first two years works out to six percent against 5.2 percent envisaged for the whole Plan. In view of this, a growth rate of 4.5 percent was targeted for the current year. However, the setback to agricultural and industrial production because of unfavourable weather conditions, power shortage and slack demand in some directions may restrict the growth rate to around 3.5 percent. This will mean an average growth of 4.5 percent only in the first three years.

The mid-term achievement in 1981-82 and the targets for 1982-83 in different sectors are as shown in the table.

Logging and Production

An interim review of the performance in the first two years shows that food production has lagged far behind targets. The achievement in the first year was 119.7 million tonnes against a target of 133.5 million tonnes. Cereals, oilseeds and sugarcane, the other crops have missed the targets. The achievement in regard to expansion of coverage under high yielding varieties programme, fertilizer consumption and pesticides use have also fallen short of targets in the first two years.

	1981-82 Anticipated Achievement	1982-83 Targets
Foodgrains (million tonnes)	132-133	139-141
Oilseeds (lakh tonnes)	115	118-120
Sugarcane (million tonnes)	180	180-185
Cotton (lakh bales)	79	82-85
Wool and mesta (lakh bales)	82	81-84
Coal (million tonnes)	125	133
Crude oil (million tonnes)	16.21	20.98
Crude steel (million tonnes)	8.80	9.54
Aluminium (000 tonnes)	207	250
Copper (million tonnes)	21	26
Iron-ore products (million tonnes)	28.07	33.47
Fertiliser (000 tonnes):		
Nitrogenous	3144	3600
Phosphatic	950	1000
Paper and paperboards (000 tonnes)	1237	1250
Automobile (000 tonnes)	55	150
Motor vehicles (000)	91	100
Ship (million tonnes)	8	8
Vessel (000 tonnes)	820	875
Industrial electronics (Rs Crores)	163	193
Consumer electronics (Rs Crores)	272	333
Computer system (Rs Crores)	34	47

The overall rate of growth in the first two years works out to only 1.6 percent. These indications are that food production will not be more than 135 million tonnes in 1982-83. To realise the Sixth Plan target of 140 million tonnes, a growth rate of seven to eight percent a year should be achieved in the next two years. From all accounts, this seems well high and feasible.

A report of the Economic research division of Birla Institute of Economic Research (BIER) which recently brought out a mid-term appraisal of the Sixth Plan, estimates grain production may grow at 2.5 percent only against the target of 3.2 percent.

As for the industrial sector, an average annual growth rate of eight percent was envisaged in the Plan document. A rate of 4.1 percent was achieved in the first year and eight percent in the second year. This marks a recovery from the decline in 1979-80. Official sources attribute this to concerted efforts taken to remove deficiencies in infrastructural facilities and bring about a better coordination among the three sectors--fuel, power and transport and to promote investment. But, whether this growth rate will be sustained or not remains to be seen.

The extent of shortfall in resource mobilisation and consequent achievement of Plan outlays due to price rise will be known after the mid-term appraisal of the Planning Commission. But the estimates mentioned during the debate in the Lok Sabha by Opposition members ranged from Rs 10,000 crores to Rs 15,000 crores.

If these estimates prove right, it will have serious implications for the realisation of the Plan aims, particularly the objective of progressive reduction in the incidence of poverty and unemployment and improvement in the quality of life through the minimum needs programme. The Plan aims at reducing the percentage of people below poverty line from 48.4 in 1979-80 to 40.9 in 1982-85.

...

PREBUDGET ECONOMIC SURVEY PLACED BEFORE PARLIAMENT

Correspondent's Report

Kolombo THE STATESMAN in English 23 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 22--Forecasting just a 2 percent growth in the gross national product in 1982-83, because of a drop in agricultural production and sluggish industrial output, the pre-budget economic survey placed before Parliament today presents a grey picture of trends.

Possibly the only reassuring features are stability in prices--with a 2.8 percent annual inflation rate on January 15--and a promising investment outlook. But the claim that the economy is showing "appreciable resilience."

The key indicators are bleak. There has been a major setback in agriculture growing constraints on resources and continued strains on the balance of payments. Despite this, the survey says the "outlook for 1983-84 should be favourable."

For those seeking hints on the coming Budget, the survey speaks of the "severe strain in 1982-83" of the Government's resources position because of sluggish revenues and expenditure on various fronts--an admission that the deficit will be considerably higher than budgeted.

The gloomiest reference is to the balance of payments position which "continues to be under strain" even though the trade deficit is expected to be lower in 1982-83 compared to the previous year mainly because of a fall in "invisible" receipts (like inward remittances).

The report says while reserves are expected to show an improvement but only because of drawings from the IMF loan of 1,000 million Special Drawing Rights. "In the absence of drawings from the IMF the reserves situation would have been difficult," the survey says.

But a ray of light is seen in the increase in the domestic production of iron ore to 21 million tons in 1982-83 from just 16 million tons in 1981-82. This production is expected to reach 30 million tons in 1983-84.

Industrial Trends

After analysing industrial trends, the survey says that "the general state of industry is obviously a matter of concern notwithstanding the substantial gains that have been made in terms of expansion and diversification of the industrial structure in the past 35 years."

Strongly criticizing the management of industry, the survey says that the high prices of many Indian products are a reflection of inherent weaknesses arising from the lack of cost consciousness and a non-competitive environment."

One special feature of the industrial scene, the survey says, is the significant increase in the capital raised through public issues and foreign loans in the market. The favourable climate for investment is also reflected in the sharp increase in disbursements and sanctions of term-lending institutions during 1982-83.

Cereal production in 1981-82 is now estimated at 133 million tons compared to about 130 million tons in 1980-81, and 110 million tons in 1979-80. The average annual level of production during the 10-year period 1970-71 to 1981-82 was 115 million tons as against 88 million tons in the period 1950-51 to 1970-71, suggesting the success of the basic agricultural strategy.

The survey notes that the internal prices of items such as sugar and cotton are high, unfavorable and limit export opportunities. At the same time, export opportunities have been made following depletion of stocks and unfavourable international conditions. There was also a shortage of oilseeds and pulses.

The survey also points out in agriculture are the high cost and low use of fertilizers. It requires new initiatives on the pricing policy but the survey points out that "in view of the overall resource constraint the Government's budget to support higher and higher levels of subsidy is limited and cannot be relied upon as a means of providing plentiful supply of fertilizers at reasonable prices."

Food Distribution System

The food distribution system has improved, but its viability "depends on the procurement effort being strengthened in all regions of the country. At present Punjab and Haryana are the main suppliers while the share from the other States is falling.

GNP in real terms increased by 5.2 percent in 1981-82, which was significantly higher than the growth anticipated earlier. This was the result of almost growth of 5.9 percent in the agricultural sector. The growth in the industrial sector also turned out to be higher. Due to the setback to the service sector, the growth in GNP during 1982-83 is likely to be around 4 percent.

domestic environment for export production has improved considerably with the investment in infrastructure in the past two years. The expansion of air transport facilities which provides substantial savings in time and cost. In the longer run, however, the essential export promotion is based on the general strength and competitiveness of the economy and its role in the international economy," the survey noted.

Exports showed a significant increase in the first half of 1982, following the improved performance in 1981-82.

In the first six months of 1982 was 22.5 percent increase while the overall exports rose by 16.2 percent during the same period, an improvement over the growth rate of 1.9 percent in 1981.

The survey also noted that the improved international conditions, the removal of the domestic export and the removal of domestic import duties, the export of goods.

The survey also noted that the substantial increase in the export of goods from 44 million tonnes during the first half of 1982 to 46 million tonnes at present, the survey says that the success of the first agricultural strategy of export is further with assured supply of improved seeds, fertilizers and other inputs. "It is also gratifying that despite the drought in certain areas during the period 1981-82, the export of goods is expected to be less than in the previous drought. The survey also noted that the export of goods by Indian agriculture and industry is expected to be less than in the previous drought."

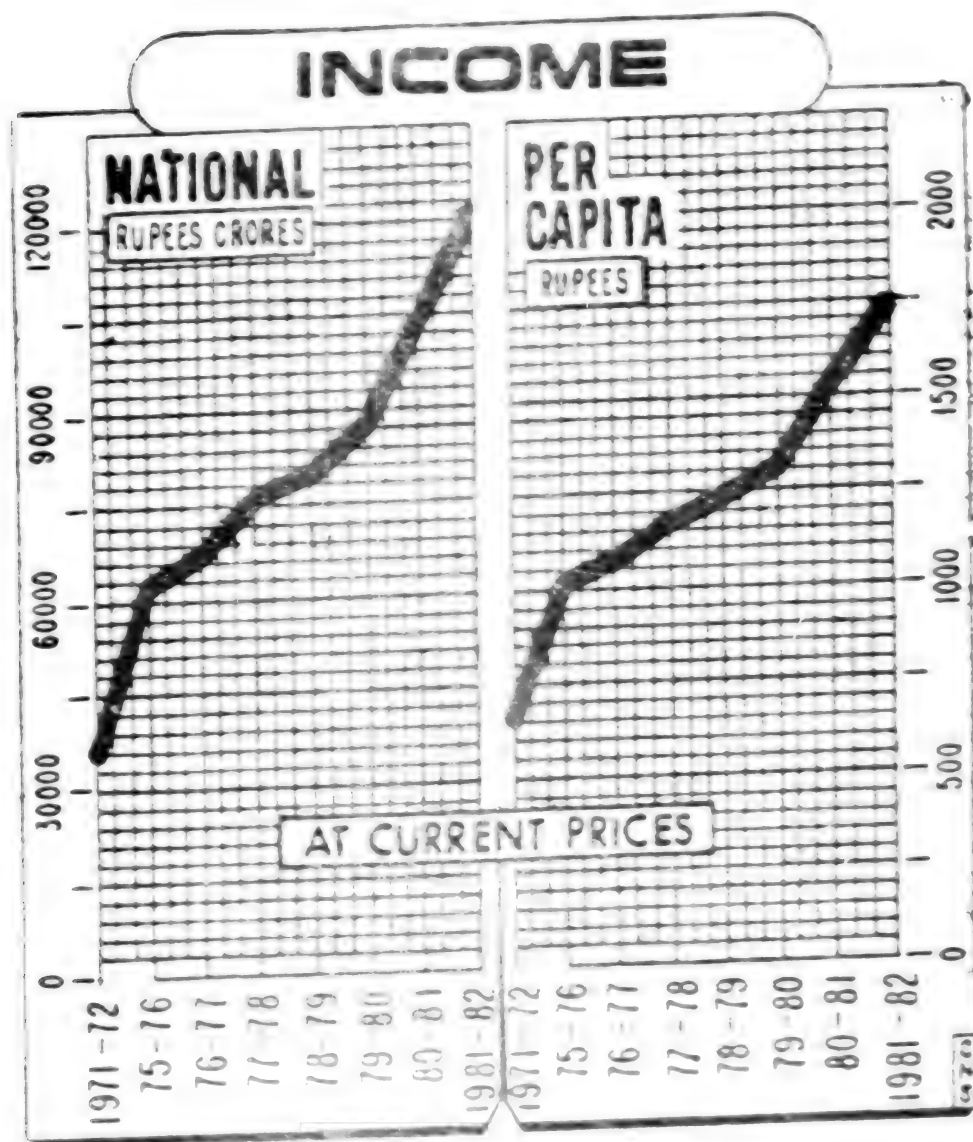
The survey, however, points out that "Despite the substantial increase in the irrigation potential and about 10 percent increase in the fertilizer use during 1974-75 to 1981-82, there has been a significant increase in the level of production of cereals. The survey also noted that the export of goods is expected to be less than in the previous drought. The survey also noted that the export of goods by Indian agriculture and industry is expected to be less than in the previous drought."

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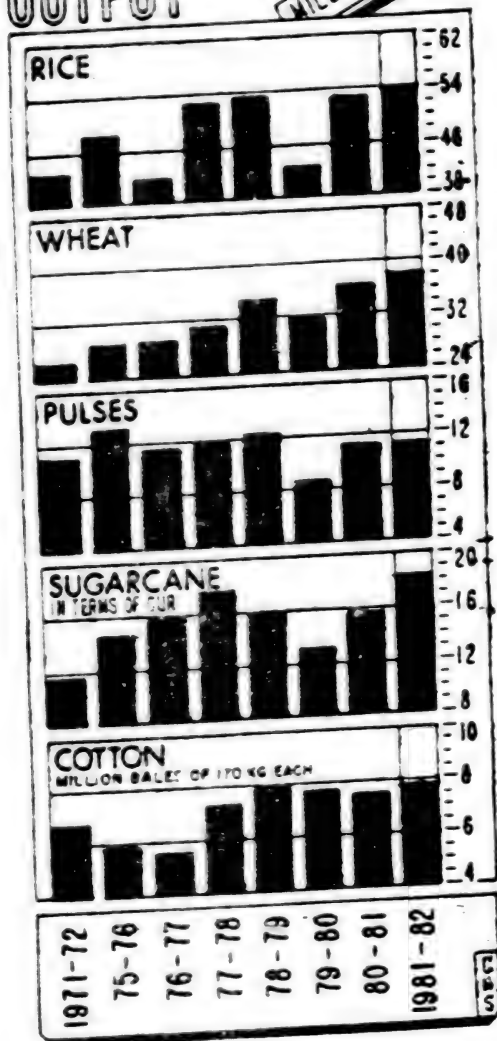
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These enterprises showed notable improvement in the production front. Their growth in output was 19.7 percent in 1981-82 against 9.3 percent in 1980-81. Their input further increased by 8.9 percent during April-October 1982.



AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT

MILLION TONNES



'No Cause for Optimism'

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Feb 83 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text] In a manner that can only be described as typical, the economic survey has studiously underplayed the extent of the setback that the Indian economy has suffered in 1982-83, and minimised the need to make decisive policy changes to meet the severe challenge that lies ahead. To some extent this reticence is understandable. Those entrusted with the task of writing the survey are constrained by the need to avoid giving clues to the contents of the forthcoming budget. More important still, since one department of the ministry of finance often does not know what another is contemplating, the writers of the survey bend over backwards to avoid being accused of trying to push the powerful revenue department in a direction not of its choosing. Whatever it causes, the results of this reticence are unfortunate. The economic survey is the only authoritative assessment of the state of the economy that the government presents to the nation. It can, and should, be used to sound the alarm when all is not going well, not only for the other government departments in New Delhi, but more importantly for the state governments and the thousands of entrepreneurs in the private sector whose decisions collectively shape the destiny of the country. Such a warning is undoubtedly needed today. The latest estimates put the fall in the output of foodgrains during the last kharif season at nine to 10 million tonnes, which is substantially more than the six million tonnes that Krishin Bhavan had estimated only three months ago. Worse still, official assertions to the contrary notwithstanding, there is likely to be a decline in the rabi output as a result of the delayed onset of the winter rains and consequent reduction in the area sown. All in all a decline of 10 percent in the overall agricultural output is very much on the cards against the survey's maximum estimate of six percent. When industrial growth has fallen to just 4.5 percent, how does the survey conclude that the GNP will rise 4.4 percent this year? It is worth remembering that in 1979-80 when agricultural production fell by 15 percent and industrial output declined by 14 percent the survey had originally estimated a decline in GNP of only three percent. The final estimates showed a fall of 4.8 percent.

The survey's expression of concern over the state of industry is the first official admission that a recession might have set in. All through 1982, industrialists cried themselves hoarse that the economy was sliding into a recession, but were met by a stone wall of denials by the government. As happened during the recession of 1974-75, it was the Planning Commission that first admitted that demand had begun to drop away. The survey's

admission has cleared the way for remedial action but it has little to offer by way of remedies. All that it is able to suggest is that industries should attempt to grow by utilising existing capacities better. This is all very well, but where is the demand to come from? This question is especially pertinent because in the past the call to utilise existing capacities better has been given whenever the government has contemplated a cut in the real level of new investment (for this is where a large part of new demand originates). This happened during the plan holiday of 1966 to 1969 and, if the reports of imminent cuts in the annual plan for 1983-84 are true, is about to happen again. In such circumstances one sure way to stimulate demand is to cut the level of indirect taxation (in recessionary conditions the benefit is reasonably sure to be passed on to the consumers). But somewhat uncharacteristically the survey has categorically ruled this out. The reason given, that the resource position is too tight to permit such a luxury, shows clearly the bookkeeping approach that characterises deliberations in the ministry of finance. Indirect taxes now add up to 57 percent of the value added in industry and construction, and the resulting tax evasion is the main cause of the slow growth of tax revenues to which the survey itself has drawn pointed attention. If ever there was a time when a cut in tax rates would both stimulate production and fill the government's coffers, it is now. Yet this is just what the survey has ruled out on the questionable grounds that a bird in hand is worth two in the bush.

The only area in which the survey has not underplayed the threat to the economy is the fall in the country's foreign exchange reserves, and its growing indebtedness abroad. It is true that this threat has been somewhat reduced by the fall in oil prices of \$5 to \$7 a barrel that is now taking place. This will save Rs 520 crores to Rs 740 crores a year in crude oil imports alone. Coming on top of the Rs 600 crores that the government expects to save by curtailing oil imports, and the sharp reduction in the import of steel and fertilisers that began last June, there is a good reason to expect a sizable decline in the balance of payments deficit in 1983-84. But this is no reason to be complacent. The inflow of "invisible" earnings has already fallen very sharply because, as a result of the decline in foreign exchange reserves over the last two years, the interest earned on foreign securities has declined sharply. In the coming two years, the effect of the decline in both OPEC's oil output and in oil prices will make itself felt both on the pace of job creation and on money wage rates in the oil exporting countries. This is bound to reduce the flow of remittances quite sharply. The survey has thus done well to call for structural adjustments to end the balance of payments deficit. It will be a pity if the fall in oil prices that has now begun lulls the government into complacency.

PRESIDENT SINGH'S SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT OPENING

Madras THE HINDU in English 19 Feb 83 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI Feb 18

The following is the text of the President, Mr Zail Singh's address to the joint sitting of both houses of Parliament today.

Hon'ble members

I welcome you to this first session of Parliament in 1983. The year ahead is full of challenges and opportunities which will require the united efforts of Parliament, the Government and the people.

On the economic side, the need is to tune up the economy, enhance production and productivity, eliminate non-productive expenditure and contain prices. In the midst of inflationary pressures in several countries, we can take legitimate pride in our success in containing inflation. Wholesale prices in mid-January 1983 were only 2.8 per cent higher than 12 months earlier. And this in spite of widespread drought affecting 48 million hectares and 312 million people.

The public distribution system was expanded and made more efficient. About 50,000 fair price shops were opened in the last three years.

Drought relief: This year the Central Government would be releasing to the States about Rs. 7,000 millions, the highest in any year for relief to victims of drought, floods and cyclones. Our sympathies go to the people hit by these natural calamities and we admire their courage and the sense of duty of relief workers.

The performance of our infrastructure and our industry has maintained improvement. Between April and December 1982, power generation rose by 7.2 per cent and production of coal by 4.2 per cent, cement by 10.2 per cent and fertilizers by 9.6 per cent. The railways increased the movement of freight by 3.5 per cent. The ports have, by and large, eliminated the waiting time of vessels.

There has been a recovery in steel production. The high prices of oil continued to be a burden on the economy, but domestic production of crude during the period rose by 30.6 per cent. Against 10.5 million tonnes in 1980-81, production was 16.2 million tonnes in 1981-82 and is anticipated to be 21 million tonnes in 1982-83. Despite the difficulties of balance of payments, unfavourable seasonal conditions, and the severe constraint on resources, the economy achieved a reasonable growth for a second successive year.

Public sector's turnover: The turnover of public sector has increased by 21 per cent in the first nine months of the current year. There has been significant expansion in the small industry sector which has maintained a rate of growth of around 10 per cent. Despite the problems faced by kharif and rabi, procurement of rice and wheat was higher than in any previous year. The Government has given farmers the benefit of higher procurement prices.

Exports: The increase in exports is being maintained. In the first seven months of the current financial year exports are expected to be about 17.8 per cent higher than the provisional figure of Rs. 39,600 millions (Rs. 3,960 crores) in the corresponding period of the previous year. The trend towards rapid increases in imports has been curbed. Although the overall import bill may show a rise to meet the developmental needs of our economy, it will be possible to check the growth of imports further with accelerated programme of oil exploration and production and increased investments in other sectors such as steel and fertilizer.

Prices of the raw materials which developing countries export have fallen sharply, while the prices of manufactured goods which we import have gone up considerably. The high interest rates in the West have further aggravated the situation for countries like India.

Plan outlay: The world is going through a critical economic period. Many countries are in the grip of recession and have been cutting down investment. We, however, were able to maintain the tempo of our development. The Central Plan outlay has increased by 27 per cent and the total outlay on Central and State Plans put together has gone up by 21 per cent. The revised 20-point programme, which was announced on Jan. 14, 1982, with its emphasis on the service of the poor and the weak, has shown heartening results. This year, more than 330 million additional mandays of rural employment will be generated under the National Rural Employment Programme.

There has also been a significant spurt in the activities of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and efforts have been consciously made to link these with the overall effort towards rural employment. Drinking water facilities have been extended to a further 24,000 problem villages.

More than 540,000 house sites have been provided. Loans from the Housing and Urban Development Corporation will help the construction of 225,000 dwellings. An additional irrigation potential of 2.35 million hectares is being created during the year.

Freedom lightens' pension: As a token of the debt which the nation owes to persons who brought us freedom, the Government have enlarged the freedom fighters' pension scheme.

The Government is vitally concerned with the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and has evolved a three-pronged strategy. This consists of the special component plans of State Governments and Central Ministries, special Central assistance in addition to the States' special component plans, and the Scheduled Castes Development

Corporations. Special Central assistance for tribal sub-plans has been stepped up from Rs. 850 millions (Rs. 85 crores) to Rs. 950 millions (Rs. 95 crores) for 1982-83.

The social and economic advancement of the economically weaker sections and the backward classes of our society will continue to be given priority in the Government's development programmes. A Centrally-sponsored scheme of fishermen's insurance has been launched.

There was a surge of popular support to and participation in the family planning programmes. During the period of April 1982 to January 1983, the number of acceptors of all family planning methods was 16 per cent higher than that for the corresponding period of the previous year. Programmes like the control of leprosy, blindness and tuberculosis are being implemented with renewed vigour under the revised 20-point programme.

Our concern for industrial workers equals our concern for agricultural workers and farmers. The amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act provide for an internal machinery to settle grievances and ensure that labour courts give decisions within a stipulated time.

Programmes and strategies for improving the quality of education, eradicating adult illiteracy and universalising elementary education in the age group of 6-14 continue to receive high priority with special emphasis on the education of girls.

Significant events: Two significant events of last year which will have a far-reaching impact on the future of our young people, and their physical and mental alertness, are the creation of a Department of Sports and the successful holding of the Asian games. The manner in which the games were organised has been widely acclaimed. The construction and upgradation of 17 stadia and sports facilities conforming to international standards proved our capacity to rise to major challenges. This infrastructure will serve our sportsmen and sportswomen in the years to come.

The Games also provided the occasion for the extension of television to many new areas and the introduction of colour telecasting. Our television policy will give special attention to the needs of our rural population and the utilisation of this powerful medium for education and development.

Science and technology: It has been an eventful year for our science and technology. We have formulated and announced a technology policy statement setting out the considerations that will guide our decisions in the development of indigenous technology, and the import of such technology as will strengthen us. We shall pursue our search for technological self-reliance.

We are paying attention to both basic science and to new areas like bio-technology, immunology, fast breeder technology in nuclear science and ocean engineering. Our second expedition is now in Antarctica continuing important experiments and surveying the area for setting up a permanent manned station in future. Our work in the survey of polymetallic nodules on the ocean floor has been rewarded with our recognition, at the conference of Law of the Sea, as a pioneer investor. We are the only developing country so recognised.

Insat-1B which will be launched this year will help us to attain a high level of telecommunication, television and meteorological capability. It will incorporate the modifications required in the light of our experience with Insat-1A, the basic design of which was sound.

Members are aware of the problems we faced in ensuring continuity of fuel supplies for our Tarapur nuclear power reactor. These have now been sorted out in consultation with the Governments of France and the U.S.

Welcome trend: I shall now turn to the domestic political scene. Divisive and disruptive forces are at work fomenting violence and weakening the national fabric. These must be fought resolutely. The Government has taken the initiative to associate the Opposition in discussions on major issues like those relating to Assam and the Punjab, and this welcome trend must continue.

Communal and anti-national elements have been indulging in objectionable activities in many areas and these will have to be effectively curbed. Extremist organisations have been active in certain North-Eastern States and territories. We have adopted a well-coordinated drive to combat these activities and maintain peace and normality. Meanwhile, the tempo of development effort all over the North-Eastern region has been stepped up.

Elections have recently taken place in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tripura and the Union territory of Delhi and in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and West Bengal earlier. Polling has just concluded in Meghalaya and is in progress in Assam. These elections have been part of our democratic tradition and a constitutional obligation.

Foreign military presence: The international situation has deteriorated. The escalation of foreign military intrusion in the Indian Ocean in disregard of the wishes of littoral States, the continuing war between Iran and Iraq, the increasing recklessness of Israel and the sufferings of the Palestinians, the aggressive acts of the racist regime of South Africa against its own people and its neighbours and the lack of progress in the disarmament talks and in North-South dialogue are all matters of concern. Political solutions are yet to be found to the situations in South-West and South-East Asia.

Ties with Pak: Certain developments in our neighbourhood have worsened our security environment. The entire nation is exercised over the acquisition of sophisticated weaponry by our neighbour, Pakistan. Our own policy has been to pursue initiatives and improve relations with our neighbours. It is hoped that the meetings that have taken place with the President of Pakistan and between officials of the two countries will eventually lead to the conclusion of an enduring relationship of peace, friendship and cooperation.

We have also had talks with the Chief Martial Law Administrator of Bangladesh. These have led to a strengthening of friendly relations. The third round of official-level talks with China on the boundary

question and other bilateral matters took place in Beijing last month. Our relations with Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka have maintained their even course.

Non-alignment policy: Our policy of non-alignment has helped us to work unswervingly for the objectives of peace, friendship and stability throughout the world and in our region. As members are aware, the seventh conference of non-aligned countries will take place early next month in New Delhi.

We are playing host to it at the unanimous request of the non-aligned community. It will be the largest gathering of heads of nations to be held in our country. It is our ardent hope that the summit will make an important contribution to the solution of the problems besetting the international community. Later in the year another major conference is being held in the capital—the Commonwealth heads of government meeting. We must put all our energies into the task of making a success of both these conferences.

I should also refer to the visits of my predecessor to Ireland and Yugoslavia and of our Prime Minister to the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America, Japan, Mauritius, Mozambique and Russia and the visits to India of the Presidents of Tanzania and Greece, King of Bhutan, the Presidents of Mozambique, Algeria, Nauru, Pakistan, France, Egypt and Nigeria, the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, Nepal and Mauritius, the chairman of the PLO, the Chief Martial Law administrator of Bangladesh as well as other statesmen. These exchanges have been of mutual benefit.

Hon. Members, the economic and political crises in the world have led to a sharpening of tension in which India can withstand only through vigilance, unity and the optimal use of its own productive capacity. Apart from fighting corruption and inefficiency it must be ensured that differences are not aired in a manner which provokes violence or weakens our secular democratic fabric.

In the last three years we have been able to maintain stability and progress. It is my earnest entreaty that the entire nation will work together to maintain India's integrity and enhance its welfare and good name.

I urge hon'ble members to approach the vital talks before them in a spirit of cooperation and harmony. I wish you all success in the budgetary, legislative and other business that awaits you.

Jai Hind.—PTI

CSO: 4600/1817

GANDHI LETTER TO CHIEF MINISTERS SUMMARIZED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Feb 83 pp 1, 7

[Text] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has urged all Chief Ministers, including those belonging to non-Congress-I parties, to streamline the State administrations in order to make them more efficient as well as responsive to the people's needs while taking steps to root out corruption.

This is embodied in her letters to Congress-I Chief Ministers as well as those heads of State Governments run by non-Congress-I parties.

The letters to the Congress-I Chief Ministers are different in language from those to the non-Congress-I ones, although the thrust of all the letters is the same. She highlighted the need to carry on the struggle against regionalism, casteism and communalism.

She, however, pointed to the non-Congress-I Chief Ministers that irrespective of their political affiliations all State Governments must maintain a vigil against "forces that weaken us."

"Our performance has been good, our policies are right and our objectives clear," she underlined.

"We can't afford to slacken and we must root out corruption," she told the Chief Ministers.

She said any report of corruption inefficiency had been brought to her notice, she got them looked into and took necessary action. "But many of the allegations (of corruption) are baseless but we don't condone any corruption," she asserted.

Mrs Gandhi said, "We should not go on believing that everyone is corrupt." The people, the Prime Minister noted, are basically good and most of the officials are honest.

She emphasised that nothing should be done to make the officials demoralised.

Referring to the general situation around India, the Prime Minister said "it is a critical period for us."

"The stronger and more independent we become, there is more antagonism from outside," she pointed out.

Mrs Gandhi said the performance of industries had not merely been good but it was quite impressive. She stressed the need for implementing the 20-point economic programme more effectively.

The Prime Minister made a pointed reference to the importance of the country's defence and steps being taken for defence preparedness and said it had been done without affecting the tempo of development and maintaining a balance between the two.

She made a reference to the increasing difficulty in getting foreign aid and how the country could not continue to borrow for too long.

She said foreign aid might help the country to tide over the current problem but it would become a burden on the future generation.

"It will not only be a burden but it will also weaken us and expose us to pressures," she cautioned. Hence, it was all the more necessary to mobilise resources, particularly through improved performance on the industrial field.

CSO: 4600/1822

MANEKA GANDHI PLANS TO LAUNCH NEW PARTY

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] Lucknow, Feb 19 (UNI)--Mrs Maneka Gandhi will launch her political party in New Delhi on 3 April next. Announcing this at a news conference here today, she said the name of the new party had also been decided.

"We have been functioning as a political party for the last one year without being one," she said.

Asked how the launching of her party would fit in the overall political scene in the country when efforts were already on to unite various Opposition parties, Mrs Maneka Gandhi said "all these opposition parties have become irrelevant because of the people's lack of faith in the old guards who control them and a vacuum has virtually been created."

Mrs Maneka Gandhi said the people today wanted new faces and the emphasis in the manifesto of her party would be on this aspect. She said she hoped her party would come up as a third alternative before the people.

Mrs Maneka Gandhi said mid-term elections in the country were on the cards.

Asked what made her think so, she said two people very close to the centre of power were sent to Rae Bareilly recently to conduct an opinion poll.

Besides, she added, money collection work was also going on an enormous scale.

CGO: 4600/1822

GANDHI RULES OUT FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN BARODA RIOTS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 10 Feb 83 p 1

[Text]

BARODA, Feb. 9.—Mrs Indira Gandhi today categorically ruled out the involvement of any foreign agency in recent riots in Baroda, reports PTL.

"This is for the first time, I am hearing of such a thing", Mrs Gandhi said in reply to a reporter's query whether some foreign agency was behind the recurring riots in the city.

Mrs Gandhi, who met reporters for hardly three minutes, said she did not feel that this was the appropriate occasion to meet the Press. "This is not the right place to express my views or assessment of the situation in the city", she replied when asked about the outcome of her visit.

"Some long-term measures were necessary to check communal riots", Mrs Gandhi said.

When asked why she had planned her visit to the city nearly two months after the disturbances, Mrs Gandhi said the reports of the local authorities have to be taken note of in this context.

Mrs Gandhi, who arrived here at 4.25 p.m. by an Indian Air Force plane, went round nearly all the

disturbed areas of the city. Large crowds thronged the streets and narrow by-lanes through which the Prime Minister's motorcade passed.

Her car was followed by a convoy of about 20 cars. Accompanying her were, among others, the Gujarat Chief Minister, Mr Madhavsinh Solanki, the State Home Minister Mr Prabodh Rawal, the Union Home Secretary Mr T. N. Chaturvedi and teams of Central and State Government officials.

Later, the Prime Minister reviewed with the leaders of various communities the steps taken to maintain communal harmony in the city.

She met about 12 different groups and heard their views. These included Jamiat-Ulema Hind, the Majlis Mushawirat local Muslim Corporators, M.P.'s and M.L.A.'s, Lokshahi Suraksha Samiti, Mahila Congress (I), Mr G. W. Momin convenor of PCC (I) Minorities Commission and a group of local Congress (I) corporators led by Mr Jatin Modi, former Mayor.

She left for Delhi at about 7 p.m.

CSO: 4600/1787

NAGA 'FEDERAL ARMY' CLASH WITH PLA REPORTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 11 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] Kohima, Feb 10 (UNI)--Three activists of PLA were killed in an encounter with the pro-Phizo "federal army" in northern Burma last month.

A press release issued from northern Burma by the "joint secretary to the vice-president of the federal government of Nagaland" E Joseph said that these people were "tracked down by the Naga army and ordered to surrender but the PLA men fired and the Naga army returned the fire in self-defence and killed three PLA men."

He said "this incident took place as the PLA men were mistaken by the Naga army to be members of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland under the leadership of Mr L.H. Muivah who are at present waging a civil war against the federal government."

"Under the circumstances, I am directed to clarify the position of the federal government of Nagaland that we do not regard the PLA as our enemy and we have nothing against them. On the other hand, the PLA had stolen into Naga territory without bothering to inform the federal government of Nagaland fully knowing that the federal government is hemmed in three sides by three different hostile forces," the release said.

"Documents found on the dead PLA men further revealed that they were heading for the Helmi (northern Burma) region in order to join forces with L.H. Muivah to fight against the federal government of Nagaland.

This interference by the Manipuris in the internal affairs of the Naga people is considered by us to be most unfortunate," Mr Joseph added.

REF: 460/1792

ANALYST ON SHORTCOMINGS IN CIVIL SERVICE

Madras THE HINDU in English 13 Feb 83 p 2

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text] The traditions of a good civil service are set by its professional competence, integrity, impersonality and dedication to public welfare. It is a handful of courageous and devoted men that establish the right conventions over a period of time that serve as guidelines for their colleagues in preserving the character and protecting the traditions of a sound administration. The checks and balances that are built into the system serve as effective safeguards against misuses of power, while the esprit de corps of the service helps to sustain the structure of a well run government.

It is equally imperative, whether it is in a democracy or dictatorship, for the political leadership to adhere to similar norms of rectitude, eschewing personal ambitions and prejudices in providing the higher direction. If the ruling elite is licentious, expecting sycophantic civil servants to pander to its whims, the dishonest ones among them take advantage of the weaknesses of their wayward political masters to feather their nests disregarding the traditions of the service. The tendency of unprincipled politicians to play favourites and surround themselves with pliable officials has led to the emergence of powerful cliques within the bureaucracy, leading to out of turn promotions and extensions.

Patronage

The result is that the few deserving officials who come in for special consideration get bracketed with the unscrupulous ones who manage to catapult themselves into key positions with political patronage. The Indian Administrative Service has thus lost its sense of affinity and cohesion with nobody raising even a little finger in protest when a palpable injustice is done to a colleague who has fallen from grace, all because he was not prepared to subserve the interests of his political boss or indulge in administrative irregularities at his behest. The country has been left with a badly divided and demoralised civil service that is at the mercy of capricious politicians with no knowledge of the complexities of modern administration.

The precipitous fall in standards has not occurred overnight, since the rapid slide down had started several years ago in the wake of successive Congress splits and the growing emphasis on commitment which meant unquestioning personal loyalty to those in power irrespective of consequences. The opposition parties behaved no better during their brief spells of power, whether it was at the Centre or in the States. It was not only during the Emergency that many senior officials at the Centre were arbitrarily removed, retired or relegated to minor jobs but the Janata was equally guilty of such high-handedness in its cavalier treatment of those who were suspected to have been Mrs Gandhi's hatchet men.

Through one more set of heads roiled after her return to power, in this vicious process of vindication and victimisation. Mrs. Gandhi needed the sound counsel of her principal advisers that unless the Government reverted to the earlier practice of promotions based on ability and seniority, besides integrity and experience, it would be impossible to improve the quality of the government. The senior appointments made in the last two or three years, after the initiative and urge to get rid of all those promoted during the Gandhi rule, were by and large based on competence and well taken by the services concerned. The country seems to be heading for another agonising spell of vindictiveness and victimisation after a brief return to the old traditions.

The real damage has been done in the States where arrogant, inexperienced and insecure Chief Ministers and their minions have played havoc with the services treating even Chief Secretaries and Inspectors-General of Police snobbishly not to speak of Collectors and their subordinate districts. The bureaucracy has deteriorated to such an extent that at the higher levels the job that one Chief Secretary did in the past is now being done by several with the same rank or status in several States.

The police establishments are headed by many Directors-General and Inspectors-General in place of one while the same thing has happened in other branches of administration in place of one Chief Engineer for each State there are several Engineers-in-Chief with many more Chief Engineers under them.

The proliferation at the Centre has been equally rampant. There are now, for instance, three Chief Secretaries in each Ministry with no one senior enough at the official level to give the Minister the benefit of integrated advice. The Ministers have been living in this bifurcation and trifurcation of responsibility since it is easier to get away with the individual Secretaries on a given issue and make them do what they wanted without bothering too much about majority or procedure in many cases. The proliferation of the number of Ministers and Secretaries has led to the fragmentation of the higher bureaucracy with no hard core in the administration.

The Chief Secretary at the Centre is no longer the acknowledged head of the bureaucracy functioning simultaneously as the head of the civil services and principal adviser to the Prime Minister on all serious matters pertaining to the Government. He has been going to maintain contact with the Chief Secretaries in the States through the Prime Minister, informed of the views of the Ministers. But his views are not sought in all cases nor his advice is always followed. But the convenience of the Ministers has been the result that the Ministers consider the services free to adhere to the Minister's policy when they are inclined to do so or when they are determined to do so in any case and vice versa.

More temperamental

It is seldom that senior officials, whether at the Centre or in the States, felt constrained to differ with their Ministers on any issue of importance in this atmosphere of constant erosion of their position in the government. The few who did paid dearly by being eased out or confronted with charges of insubordination. The differences that generated frictions between Ministers and Secretaries generally related to their temperamental attitudes rather than policy conflicts. Though the Prime Minister herself has asked the Secretaries, at the two pep sessions she had with them in the last two years, to express their view candidly on files, those that took the advice seriously have come to grief by exposing themselves to ministerial displeasure.

In the British days the traditions were different. The then Viceroy, Lord Wavell, was not averse to the idea of writing off or scaling down drastically the sterling balances accumulated by India at the behest of the home government in London. But his Finance Member, Sir Archibald Rowlands, had

vehemently opposed the suggestion maintaining that a poor country like India which played its part in the war effort and built up the sterling balances the hard way should not be penalised for it. The point is that neither the Viceroy nor the Secretary of State made any issue of it to the point of sacking the Finance Member or compelling him to quit if he was not prepared to go along with them.

After Independence such basic differences were not tolerated, but the officials concerned were not discouraged from voicing their views before they were overruled by the government. But the point is that nobody was criticised for daring to disagree with the Minister during policy formulation. The officials too were disciplined enough to implement the policies once the necessary decisions were taken against their advice. The relationship between the Ministers and Secretaries was quite cordial in most cases. It was only after the advent of Krishna Menon on the scene that officials were humiliated or punished for daring to disagree with them.

But there have been running battles for one reason or the other in the Railway Ministry starting from the reorganisation of the zones to the management of coal and passenger movements. The first clash occurred between N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar and the then Chief Commissioner of Railways, Blake, over the proposed reorganisation. The Minister was senior enough to have his way without a confrontation and the Chief Commissioner was sensible enough to resign gracefully without making an issue of it. Several Chairmen of the Railway Board had run into trouble with their Ministers but they were either eased out or allowed to retire in the normal course without a row over such differences.

It was only after Manumanthaiva clashed publicly with Mr. Ganguli that the episode assumed the dimensions of a controversy, when the Minister ordered his saloon to be detached at a wayside station and prevented him from proceeding on tour, ignoring the orders to stay behind in Delhi. The two others that followed Mr. Ganguli, Mr. Rajan and Mr. Menezes, were summarily removed without any advance notice. It was left to Mr. Ghani Khan Chaudhury to overreach himself by sacking Mr. Gujral in the most peremptory fashion by taking advantage of the Prime Minister's recent directive to review the cases of all officers on extension.

It is not known whether the Prime Minister was consulted by the Railway Minister who has been camping in Gauhati for the last three weeks organising the Congress (I) campaign for the Assam Assembly elections. But even if he did she would not have objected to the decision to sack Mr. Gujral in principle, although she might have disagreed with the clumsy manner in which the Minister had chosen to act. Her policy has been to first get rid of officials who clash with Ministers, before dealing with the abrasive Ministers later on after the controversy had died down. This is what she did in

the case of Manumanthaiva and Mr. Ghani Khan Choudhury also might meet with similar treatment.

But the basic issue that transcends these recurring conflicts is what kind of civil service should India have: a professionally competent and reliable bureaucracy or a weak and pliable one that is ready to do what it is told to do without raising any awkward questions of propriety or public interest. It is an open secret that many of the officials who have been used for collecting funds for their political masters on whatever pretext have not raised any conscientious objections. What is worse the peers of the civil service have not protested even privately when a palpable injustice was done to any one of their colleagues. The British TV series on "Yes, Minister" is only a sanitised version of much worse things that are done in the name of loyalty and commitment.

And there can be no easy answer to this dilemma until the calibre of the political leadership itself improves and public opinion is alert enough to assert itself against such excesses in the normal course. It is not only the politicians but the civil servants also who must go through some honest searching of minds to identify the causes of the decline and accept their share of the blame for it.

CSO: 4600/1798

NEW MINISTRY TAKES OATH IN ASSAM

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Feb 83 pp 1, 7

[Text] Gauhati, Feb 27 (PTI, UNI)--A 13-member Congress-I Ministry headed by Mr Hiteswar Saikia, took oath in Assam this evening as para-military forces stood guard around Raj Bhavan here, while protest "blackout" was observed in almost the entire State in a 24-hour "total non-cooperation" called by the movement leaders.

Earlier the President's rule, due to expire on 19 March, was revoked from the State, paving the way for the formation of the new Ministry.

Governor Prakash Mehrotra administered the oath to the Ministers who included 11 of Cabinet rank and one Minister of State. Two former Chief Ministers, Syeda Anwara Taimur and Mr Keshab Chandra Gogoi were in the Cabinet.

Most of the legislators and invitees came to Raj Bhavan around which para-military and police forces had thrown a tight ring in cars and buses under heavy security escort.

The newly-elected Assam Assembly will meet for its budget session in mid-March, Chief Minister Saikia announced later.

The Ministers

The Cabinet members are 1) Mr Mohammed Idris, 2) Syeda Anwara Taimur, 2) Mr Keshob Chandra Gogoi, 4) Mr Randendra Narayan Basum tari, 5) Mr Upen Das, 6) Mr Dhaniram Rongpi, 7) Mr Jagannath Singh, 8) Mr Zahirul Islam, 9) Mr Mukut Sharma, 10) Mr Jagadish Chandra Chowdhury and 11) Mr Rameshwar Dhanwar.

The Minister of State is Mr Padam Baharud Chouhan.

Except two new faces in the Cabinet, and the Minister of State, the rest have all held important ranks in the Government at one time or another. The two new entrants are Mr Choudhury and Mr Dhanwar.

CM's Promise

Immediately after the swearing-in ceremony, Mr Saikia told newsmen that the restoration of normalcy in the trouble-torn State would be the prime concern of his Government. The Chief Minister said that he would visit the affected areas next Tuesday for an on-the-spot study and would provide all possible relief and rehabilitation.

Asked about the fate of employees against whom the Government had taken disciplinary action, Mr Saikia said every case would be considered on its merits.

Mr Saikia said he would devise ways and means in consultation with the Central leaders, to find a solution to the foreigners issue and would meet the agitation leaders if they so desired.

Mr Saikia later convened the first meeting of his Ministry to discuss matters relating to relief and rehabilitation of the victims of disturbances.

Situation

Meanwhile, police reinforcements were rushed to Nowgong town and adjoining areas where the army has been staging Flag Marches for the past three days following possibility of fresh disturbances.

Meanwhile, two people were killed and at least 50 houses burnt down in three districts of Assam since Friday, delayed official reports said.

One boy was burnt to death when a house was set on fire by miscreants in Dekanpar village under Jonai police station in Lakhimpur district.

CSO: 4600/1836

CHANGES IN MAHARASHTRA MINISTRY REPORTED

Madras THE HINDU in English 10 Feb 83 p 7

[Text]

BOMBAY, Feb. 9.

Two Ministers-designate, Mr. Nanabhau Embadwar (Cabinet rank) and Mr. Surendra Bhuyar (Ministers of State), will be sworn-in in a day or two, as they have agreed to join the Maharashtra Ministry.

The consent of the two was announced here today by the Chief Minister, Mr. Vasantrao Patil after discussions with their leader, Mr. J. B. Dhote, Congress (I) MP who had spearheaded the "Bhosale hatao" campaign in Vidarbha.

The two had absented themselves on Monday, when the 12th State Ministry was sworn-in by the Governor, Mr. I. H. Latif.

Mr. Patil also had detailed discussions with Mr. Dhote on problems facing the party and the Vidarbha region and requested him to cooperate with the new government in the interest of the party and the State.

The Chief Minister has kept to himself General Administration, Home, Information and Public Relations, Employment Guarantee Scheme and Cooperation.

M. Ramrao Adik, Deputy Chief Minister, has got Industries and Urban Development. Mr. Sushilkumar S. Shinde has been allotted Finance, Cultural Affairs and Tourism.

Mr. Shantaram Gopal Gholap has been given Revenue, Rehabilitation, Legislative Affairs, Ports and Khar lands. Mrs. Lalita Rao has been entrusted with Public Health, Family Welfare, Medical Education and Drugs.

In reply to a newsman's question, Mr. Patil said that if Dr. Datta Samant, president of the Maharashtra Girni Kamgar Union, wished to meet him he was welcome.

The tripartite committee which is studying the problems of the strike-bound textile mills will submit its report in a week. The report will provide the base for Mr. Patil to have discussion with Dr. Samant.

Mr. Patil said that the permit system introduced by the previous Ministry restricting visitors to Mantralaya (Secretariat) had been removed. The public could visit the ministers and present their grievances during working hours.—Our Special Correspondent.

UPTREND IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES REPORTED

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Feb 83 p 7

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 22--The exchange outflow on the imports of crude and petroleum products during 1982-83 is now expected to be a little higher than in 1981-82, according to the figures given in the Rajya Sabha today during question hour by Mr Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister.

It was earlier expected that there may be a saving of Rs 700 crores on these imports during 1982-83 on account of the decline in the international oil prices and the import bill during 1982-83 was estimated at Rs 4,700 crores against Rs 5,200 crores in 1981-82.

The Finance Minister, who was replying to questions from Mr Biswa Goswami and Dr M.S. Siddhu, said import of crude and petroleum products during 1982-83 were now estimated to cost Rs 5,447 crores against Rs 5,185 crores during 1981-82. The figures he gave in respect of fertilizer imports, however, showed a reduction in the import bill from Rs 946 crores in 1981-82 to Rs 853 crores in 1982-83.

(According to enquiries made with the petroleum department, the net foreign exchange outflow on petroleum imports in 1982-83 is estimated at Rs 4,247 crores, since there will be an exchange earning of Rs 1,200 crores from the export of 5.5 million tonnes of Bombay high crude).

Mr Mukherjee said the foreign exchange reserves stood at Rs 3,682 crores at the end of January 1983 and there had been an upward trend in the reserves since Oct 1982 when they stood at Rs 3,133 crores to Rs 3,381 crores in Nov and Rs 3,436 crores in Dec 1982. "But I am not sure," he said, "we shall be able to continue it. We are trying to meet the situation by augmenting exports and reducing imports and are vigorously pursuing the policy of import substitution."

Buffer stocks satisfactory: Pointing out the importance of ensuring adequate food supplies, the Minister said, "In spite of the drought and damage to the kharif crop, we have been able to maintain a fairly stable situation. Our buffer stocks are being maintained at a reasonably satisfactory level."

During the first 10 months of the present financial year, foreign exchange reserves recorded a rise of Rs 328 crores including the drawals of Rs 1,242 crores from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under its extended fund facility compared with a decline of Rs 1,292 crores during the corresponding period of 1981-82 which included drawals of Rs 637 crores from IMF during that period. Excluding the impact of the drawals from IMF, the foreign exchange reserves would show an erosion of Rs 91.4 crores a month this year compared to Rs 192.9 crores last year.

Three-fold oil price rise: The main reason for the increase in the import bill was the rise in the prices of oil and petroleum products. The bill had gone up from Rs 1,687 crores in 1978-79 to Rs 5,587 crores in 1980-81. Even though the quantum of petroleum imports had not changed, the prices had gone up by three times.

The Minister said that while the country's average export growth was 25 percent, in the three years from 1974-75 to 1976-77 the growth rate came down sharply in the next three years, 1977-78 to 1979-80 to 8 percent. It picked up in the next three years from 1980-81 to 1982-83 to between 11 and 12 percent. Inward remittances from abroad had gone up from Rs 325.1 crores in 1974-75 to Rs 2,600 crores in 1981-82 though they were likely to show a decline during this year.

Curbs on foreign jaunts: Replying to questions on wasteful expenditure on foreign tours by Ministers and officials, Mr Mukherjee said the Government had taken various steps to curtail foreign trips. "Recently, I have written to all the Chief Ministers and I am glad to inform you that all of them have readily responded and the response will be reflected in the coming months," he added.

Rupee value: The purchasing power of rupee measured as a reciprocal of the consumer price index for industrial workers (1960 as 100) for December last year works out to 20.12 paise.

END: 4600/1829

CURB ON FOREIGN MONEY INFLOW UNDER CONSIDERATION

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 12 Feb 83 p 5

[Text]

The Government is considering necessary changes in the present law to effect strict control over the inflow of foreign money into the country, reports PTL.

This was stated by Home Minister P C Sethi at the meeting of the parliamentary consultative committee, attached to his ministry in Delhi on Thursday.

Most of the members strongly suggested that the foreign money coming to the country for all purposes should either come through the government or be totally banned as, according to them, it was 'creating problems, and playing havoc with the public life.'

Syed Shahabuddin (Janata), who raised the issue said the Government should come out with a complete list of the organisations belonging to all religions who were getting foreign money. Giving names of the organisations belonging to one particular community was misleading, he said.

His suggestion that the flow

of foreign money should be regulated through the Government was supported by most of the members, including Mr Vajpayee Mrs Rod Mistry and Mr B P Mauriya.

Mrs Roda Mistry wanted the Government to check the foreign agencies adopting Indian children which, according to her, led to illegal flow of foreign money in the country.

Replying to members questions, Mr Sethi is reported to have said that trade unions could get foreign money provided they informed the Government about it.

Regarding the representation of minorities and weaker sections in the services, the Home Minister reiterated that his Ministry had already written to the State Governments for giving representation to a cross section of the society in the State police forces and armed constabularies.

Besides, these arrangements were also to be made in the central para-military forces.

About the Mandal Commission report, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs P Venkatasubbaiah, said the report had raised many important and complex issues which had 'wide and deep implications' for the country as a whole.

The report had been referred to States and Union Territories for their comments and the Government would soon call a meeting of the Chief Ministers to consider it, he said.

Mr Sethi informed the members about the efforts being made for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the tribal sub-plan and the special component plans.

He said that State Governments had been requested to strengthen their district administrative machinery to implement these schemes effectively. Some States had already taken necessary action.

The Central teams had been visiting the States to monitor the progress of these schemes and suggest remedial measures, he said.

CSO: 4600/1794

FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO BE UNDER TARGET

Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Feb 83 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 10.

Foodgrain production in the current year is expected to be around 128 million tonnes only — short of the target by 11-13 million tonnes and lower than last year's record level by five million tonnes.

The Union Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, who gave this estimate at a press conference here today, said this was due mainly to shortfall in kharif production on account of drought. The rabi target was raised from 58 million tonnes to 62 million tonnes to make up for the kharif shortfall. But it appeared that the rabi output would be only around 56 million tonnes.

The Minister, however, took comfort in the fact that the shortfall this year would be substantially lower than that in 1979-80, though the area hit by drought and flood was much higher.

Compared to 405 lakh hectares in 1979-80 the worst drought ever experienced — the area hit this year was 484 lakh hectares. But the shortfall would be five to eight million tonnes compared to 22 million tonnes in 1979-80, he

said. This, he felt, reflected the resilience of Indian agriculture to adverse weather conditions.

No wheat import now: Asked whether import of wheat was contemplated the Minister said that at present it was not in view. But the Government could not always be sure that nothing more would be needed. The question of import would be considered, taking into account the actual crop position, the buffer-stock level and the trends in public distribution system of take.

As on January 1, the buffer stock with the Centre was 12.68 million tonnes comprising 5.35 million tonnes rice, 7.2 million tonnes wheat and 1.3 lakh tonnes coarse grain. This would be augmented by 3.1 million tonnes wheat from the import contracted for.

Rao Birendra Singh said that in 1981-82, record levels were touched in production of rice, wheat, oilseeds, sugarcane, jute and mesta, milk, egg, fish, and sugar. Consumption of fertilizers and pesticides was also a record.

The Minister said a scheme was under consideration to set up model vegetable production farms by the Central Government around 18 cities.

CSO: 4600/1790

ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY HEAD TELLS PLANS, PROGRESS

Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Feb 83 p 7

[Text]

BANGALORE, Feb. 10.

The national power grid, a country-wide network of 400 kV transmission lines with an estimated investment of Rs. 8,000 crores, would be a reality by 1990, according to the Chairman of the Central Electricity Authority, Mr. S. N. Roy.

Speaking to pressmen here today, Mr. Roy said the first phase, putting all States into regions, had been accomplished. The second phase of inter-connecting regions had to be accomplished.

With this end in view, the Centre was setting up super thermal stations. When the national power grid was commissioned, surplus power could be drawn upon from far away Delhi to Karnataka.

Mr. Roy mentioned a proposal to set up a regional electricity authority, to enable it to purchase power at a uniform price from surplus States for distribution among deficit States. Under this set-up, surplus States would not be able to take advantage of distressed States wanting power.

However, few States favoured such a body as they felt it would encroach on their autonomy. But attempts were being made to evolve a consensus on this issue. He said power generation would be shifted from the State List to the Central List when the national power grid became a reality.

Comfortable position: He said the country's power position would be comfortable by 1985 as the total shortfall would have been fully wiped-off.

However, he warned that after 1985-86, State Electricity Boards would have to launch new projects to augment generation substantially as otherwise there would be a deficit again.

The total shortage of power during 1979-80 was 16 per cent. During 1982-83 it would be reduced to nine per cent, by 1983-84 to between seven and eight per cent. By 1984-85, he hoped the shortage would be between three and four per cent.

Performance goes down: The country's performance in thermal power generation had

gone down to 49 per cent from 56 per cent in 1976-77 due to several factors, like poor maintenance of plants, teething problems, supply of poor quality coal, lack of spare parts and trained personnel to man the stations.

He said the Authority had initiated steps to improve performance. These included efficient spare parts management, improved crushing and handling of coal at the mines and upgrading the quality of engineers to man the thermal stations.

He forecast that Karnataka would be a surplus State by 1985-86. Tamil Nadu would also be in a comfortable position by then. At present, Tamil Nadu was short by 38 million units or 30 per cent and Karnataka by seven million units or 25 per cent.

Andhra Pradesh, Delhi and Punjab were well-off at present and Rajasthan would join them in another two months when the nuclear power station was commissioned.

Severe crisis: Speaking at the 23rd meeting of the Central Electricity Authority here earlier, Mr. Roy said the country was in the grip of a severe power crisis despite the power generation growth ratio touching 10 per cent.

He said if all the State Electricity Boards reduced consumption and maximised generation, the country could be self-sufficient. Mr. Roy said the country's distribution losses — about 21 per cent — was a very disturbing factor. He was also concerned over electrical accidents which claimed 2,000 to 2,300 victims a year.

The PWD Minister, Mr. H. D. Deve Gowda, who inaugurated the meeting, said the State was in the midst of an "unprecedented severe power crisis" and expressed the hope that the power generation in the Southern grid, of which Karnataka was a member, would be augmented — particularly by thermal generation in Andhra Pradesh — so that surplus power could be shared by Karnataka and other States.

Mr. B. M. Reddi, Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

DELHI PLANNING TO CURTAIL SURPLUS DIPLOMATIC STAFF

Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Feb 83 p 9

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 10.

As part of the latest economy drive, the Government is taking steps to improve the functioning of the Indian diplomatic missions abroad by curtailing superfluous staff and avoiding duplication wherever possible.

A high power committee, consisting of one of the Secretaries in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr. K. S. Bajpai, the Defence Secretary, Mr. P. K. Kaul, the Commerce Secretary, Mr. Abid Hussain, and a retired Ambassador, Mr. Samar Sen, who had served in different capacities abroad from the time of Independence, has been formed to review the organisation and functions of these missions (as briefly reported).

The committee, which will have the Additional Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry in charge of administration as its Secretary, will examine the work of these missions from the political, commercial and defence angles to see whether all these functions could be performed by the diplomatic staff without extra personnel assigned for this purpose by the Ministers concerned.

There are a large number of public sector organisations and specialised agencies of the Government which have representatives abroad. The committee will study whether it is necessary at all to have separate military, educational, medical, railway and cultural advisers or attaches in some of the major missions.

It will also look into the desirability of State Trading, Tourist and other agencies of Government having their own offices abroad, whether the expenditure could be reduced by at least reducing their number if they could not

be merged into the Embassies or High Commissions.

Wasteful expenditure: A good deal of wasteful expenditure is incurred abroad not only by the proliferation of these agencies but also through ever increasing travel by delegations attending innumerable international conferences. The idea is that the officials of the diplomatic missions should be able to represent the country at many of these conferences without sending officials from India for this purpose.

The Government is also thinking of curtailing the visits of both civil and defence personnel for training or familiarisation courses except where such trips are absolutely necessary in the larger national interest. The spending spree has reached such alarming proportions that during the high season the west-bound Air India flights have a very high percentage of Government personnel travelling at public expense.

An economy drive has been carried out several times in the past to curtail such avoidable expenditure, but the Government has not succeeded in enforcing any worthwhile reduction in expenditure. It remains to be seen whether the latest effort will succeed in curbing the operation of Parkinson's Law where it failed deplorably in the past.

It is very difficult for a Government to draw a distinction between essential and non-essential expenditure since the priorities vary from Ministry to Ministry and from Department to Department. It is not easy even for a Prime Minister to take an overall view without getting enmeshed in the maze of duplication in Indian representation abroad.

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN ASSISTANCE DISCUSSED--Various aspects of mutual economic cooperation and commercial relations between India and Romania were discussed on Friday by Mr Ashok Jain, vice-president of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, with Mr Alexander Rosu, visiting Minister of State and Head of International Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Romania, reports PTI. Mr Jain hoped that it would be possible to attain a total trade of Rs 3130 million as provided in the trade protocol for 1983. The trade had grown from Rs 38 million in 1959 to Rs 2500 million in 1982 with the balance in India's favour. He said India could supply to Romania engineering goods and manufactured cost where it had a cost advantage, while increasing imports of items like rolled steel products, oil drilling equipment, fertilizers and chemicals. Mr Jain invited Romanian assistance in areas such as fertilizers, electronic equipment, petrochemicals, oil exploration and drilling and marketing tie-ups for export of each others products to third countries. He pointed out that Gauhati, Barauni and Bongaigon refineries were symbols of Romanian assistance. Mr Rosu assured that Romania attached the greatest importance to economic relations with India and would strive to attain the targets of trade turnover set out in the trade protocol. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Feb 83 p 7]

ANTARCTIC TEAM SUPPLIED--An Indian Air Force crew air-dropped two tons of supplies to the Indian Antarctica expedition team in Dakshin Gangotri at 6.30 p.m. (IST) on Friday in an aircraft provided by the Argentinian Air Force, reports PTI. The aircraft, which took off from Argentina, remained overhead the Dakshin Gangotri for 20 minutes, says an official release. After supply-dropping and taking photographs, the aircraft and the crew landed back safely at the Argentinian air base this morning. Considerable amount of preparation, training and planning, both by the Argentinian Air Force and the IAF air crew had to be done to make this long and arduous trip successful. The crew had to run the risk of facing many hazards related to bad weather and unpredictable high winds at altitude which can totally upset navigational planning. Also, the aircraft had to be fitted with fuel tanks. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Feb 83 p 7]

SCIENTISTS IN ANTARCTIC--An Indian marine scientist will spend a year undertaking research in Antarctica at the Australian Antarctic station Davis, at the invitation of the Australian Government, reports UNI. Dr V. Dharkalkar, from the National Institute of Oceanography in Goa, will be the first Indian scientist to participate in that country's research programme on the frozen continent, according to an Australian Information Service release. He will leave Australia for Antarctica on Saturday. Davis Station, established in 1957, is the farthest south of the three permanently inhabited Australian stations in Antarctica and is situated on the rocky coast of the Vestfold Hills, some 20 kms inland from the continental ice sheet. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 12 Feb 83 p 8]

COOPERATION WITH SWITZERLAND--New Delhi, Feb 18--Induction of advanced and sophisticated technology from Switzerland to upgrade the technological capabilities of Indian industry and make Indian goods stand the rigorous test of international competition is expected in the wake of the Indo-Swiss Joint Commission meeting that ended here today. One of the proposals in this direction agreed to in principle at the meeting envisages assistance from renowned Swiss shoe manufacturers for selected Indian footwear units to upgrade their production technologies. Though at this stage only a programme of technical assistance is contemplated, a joint venture in this sector is not ruled out. Mr V. Shunglu, Joint Secretary in the Union Commerce Ministry and Mr E. Roethlisberger, who headed respectively the Indian and Swiss delegations to the Joint Commission meeting told newsmen after signing the agreed minutes that they expected trade ties and economic cooperation between the two countries to strengthen. Mr Shunglu noted that Switzerland was the most important partner in Europe outside the EEC and said India was specially interested in trade with Sweden because it had high technology to offer. He expected many more Indo-Swiss joint ventures in future because of the possibility of transfer of high technology. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 19 Feb 83 p 9]

POLAND'S TRADE OFFER--New Delhi, Feb 20--Poland has offered to construct coal washeries in India on a turnkey basis in exchange for tea and also to set up thermal plants of up to 1,000-MW capacity on credit. The barter deal offer discussed by the visiting Polish Deputy Minister for Power and Coal, Mr R. Buckowiecki, with the Planning commission yesterday. Poland, Mr Buckowiecki pointed out, was importing 20,000 tons of tea valued at \$40 million from India. Another 7,000 tons was imported from other countries. Poland had already built six coal washeries in India. The Polish offer to cooperate with India in the construction of thermal stations of up to 1,000-MW capacity had been pending for over a year. The Deputy Minister had already visited Bokaro and Durgam where his country is building captive power plants of about 66-MW. Mr Buckowiecki told reporters here that Poland was also interested in the overhaul and maintenance of power stations in India. He said that there was also the possibility of increasing the volume of trade between India and his country. Poland would be particularly interested in buying from India high pressure fittings, components for instruments and control equipment for power stations and more textiles, he said. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Feb 83 p 11]

INDO-ALGERIAN TIES--New Delhi--Algeria has indicated it would enlist India's services in a number of areas, including iron and steel, medium and small scale industries and sub-contracting. At a meeting on Friday with Mr S.B. Chavan, Minister of Planning, chairman of the Indo-Algerian joint commission, Mr Kasdi Merbah, Algerian Minister of Heavy Industry, visualised such cooperation. He hoped further mutually advantageous trade exchanges would also take place between the two countries. PTI [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 13 Feb 83 p 2]

WORLD BANK LOAN--New Delhi, Feb 22--The World Bank has agreed to give \$165.5 millions (about Rs 162 crores) to finance the \$631.4 million project for on-shore and off-shore exploration of oil and gas in the Krishna-Godavari basin, the Lok Sabha was informed today. The foreign exchange expenditure of the project which includes seismic on shore surveys of 1,700 km and drilling of 12 exploratory wells and 3,500 km survey of very shallow water and drilling of 16 wells offshore was estimated at \$395.5 million, Mr Gargi Shankar Mishra, Minister of State for Energy, told Mr Anantha Ramulu Mallu in a written reply. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Feb 83 p 7]

CPI-ML APPEAL--New Delhi, Feb 12--At its recent third "all-India party congress," the CPI (Marxist-Leninist) faction, led by Mr Vinod Misra, issued a call to its party activists to organize local workers' and peoples' insurrections, cause revolts in the police and armed forces and simultaneously launch struggles by peasants in the countryside. The congress of the Misra faction of the CPI (ML) was held in a village in Bihar from December 26 to 30, according to reports received here. This faction, mainly operating in villages of Bihar, particularly in Bhojpur district, a part of West Bengal, and believing in both underground activity and mass fronts, once again approved the party's line of aligning with the Chinese Communist Party. The congress also upheld the "correctness" of Mao Zedong's Three-World theory. After the opening speech of the general secretary of the party, Mr Misra, the five-day congress adopted the political-organizational report presented by Mr Raghu, on behalf of the outgoing central committee. The theme of the document on India's internal situation is that Mrs Gandhi's Government is "autocratic" and is supported by the country's big monopoly houses and the Government bureaucracy, which receive support from foreign capitalists. [Text] [Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 13 Feb 83 p 9]

PACT WITH ETHIOPIA--Addis Ababa, Feb 10--India and Ethiopia have signed the first ever cultural agreement between the two countries. It was signed here yesterday by the Minister of State for Education, Mrs Sheila Kaul, and the Ethiopian Foreign Minister, Dr Feleke Gedle Giorgis. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Feb 83 p 6]

INDO-DUTCH TRADE PANEL--New Delhi, Feb 9--The so far modest commercial and industrial cooperation between India and the Netherlands would be boosted and an official-level joint committee would be set up to identify areas of cooperation. An agreement to this effect was signed here yesterday by the Dutch Foreign Trade Minister, Mr Frits Bolkestein and the Union Commerce Ministers, Mr V.P. Singh. Mr Bolkestein told newsmen that the agreement would eventually help India and the Netherlands recover from the impact of worldwide recession and provide a solid basis for intensifying bilateral commercial relations. The proposed joint committee would meet in New Delhi next month when the Indo-Dutch Joint Business Council, comprising representatives of business and industry of both countries would also meet. The possible areas of cooperation include port and harbour activities, telecommunications, construction of offshore and onshore pipelines, inland water transport, shipbuilding, farm land reclamation and development in drought prone regions. Some joint ventures could be set up, even in third countries. For instance, the Bharat Electronics Ltd at Bangalore and HSA, the Dutch subsidiary of Philips, could collaborate. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 10 Feb 83 p 7]

CSO: 4600/1789

VELAYATI: 'IRAN HOPES IRAQI PEOPLE THEMSELVES WILL OVERTHROW REGIME'

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 26 Feb 83 p 1

[Text]

BELGRADE (IRNA)— Conditions set forward by the Islamic Republic government for ending the 30-month old Iraqi imposed war, including receiving war reparations from the Iraqi regime, have not changed said Iranian Foreign Affairs Minister, Ali Akbar Velayati here Wednesday.

Velayati who arrived here last Tuesday on an official visit, speaking in a press conference said that Iran had repeatedly announced its conditions for ending the Iraq-Iran war and was not willing to hold negotiations with a regime which has at times violated rights of Iran.

The conditions put forward by the Iranian government for ending war are: withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory, payment of war reparations by Iraq, condemnation and punishment of the Iraqi Ba'athist regime as the aggressor, return of those who have been deported from Iraq.

The on going war, he said was a war between a nation upon which an act of aggression was done and as the aggressor regime which occupied some 11 thousand sq. kms of the Iranian territory at the outbreak of the war, was only one proof of this fact.

Commenting on the fate of the Iraqi regime, the Iranian Foreign Minister said that change in government system of Iraq was only to be decided by

the Iraqi people. "Iran hopes Iraqi people themselves will overthrow the regime because Iran was not interested in interfering in affairs of the Iraqi people," he added.

Velayati speaking about reasons behind the Iraq-Iran war, said that Islam has been the main factor and one of the objectives behind Iraqi aggression was to destroy the Islamic government.

In reply to a question concerning rumors on military aid of the Zionist regime to Iran, Velayati said that if the Zionist regime was to provide other countries with armaments, it would provide them to those with which it has close and friendly relations such as Iraq and Egypt. Pointing out to complete break off of relations with the Zionist regime immediately after victory of the Islamic Revolution and handing over the former Embassy compound of the Zionist regime to the Palestinians, Velayati said that Iran was one of the staunchest enemies of the Zionist regime and would continue to remain so.

He continued that those same countries which have been pressing the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to establish relations with the Zionist regime, were the main obstacles in securing the approval of the Iranian proposal to the United Nations' General Assembly concerning expulsion

of the Zionist regime from the U.N.

He strongly denied unsubstantiated claims of the Zionist regime concerning giving military aid to Iran. He said that such efforts were examples of a massive propaganda warfare against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Commenting on the possibility of improvement on U.S.-Iran relations, Velayati said that the U.S. government was a strong supporter of the former regime in Iran and after victory of the Islamic Revolution it has not ceased its hostility against Iran. Therefore, there was no reason that Iran should have normal relations with the U.S.

As for relations of Iran with the PLO which have become cool, the Iranian Foreign Minister stressed that the issue of Palestine was one of the main strategies of the Iranian foreign policy. He said Islamic Republic of Iran since victory of the Revolution has been a staunch supporter of the Palestinian cause. PLO has an embassy in Iran and in the past few months various meetings have taken place between

the Iranian and the PLO officials.

Continuing his remarks on the PLO issue, he said that a high-ranking Iranian delegation took part in the Palestinian National Council, held in Algiers recently. He further condemned any compromise with the Zionist regime and added, that in the opinion of the Islamic Republic, the only way of struggle against the Zionist regime, was armed struggle.

Finally, on relations with Yugoslavia, Velayati said that discussions held with Yugoslav officials centered economic and scientific issues. As for the forthcoming summit meeting of the Non-Aligned countries to open in New Delhi in March, he said that the Iranian delegation would bring up the issue of Afghanistan and ways of finding solution to this crisis, Zionist regime's attack on Lebanon, attack of South Africa against Angola, occupation of Namibia and issue related to Latin America.

At the end he told reporters that both Iran and Yugoslavia agreed that the PLO was the only representative of the Palestinians.

TEHRAN TURKISH RADIO ON FOREIGN RADIOS ATTACKS

GF171228 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 16 Mar 83

[From the "What Are Foreign Radios Saying?" program]

[Text] Dear listeners, in view of the commencement of the Seventh Nonaligned Summit in Delhi, propaganda organs moved to present the Iraq-Iran war to the movement in a distorted way.

Nevertheless, with gradually increasing determination to resist Ba'thist and other foreign pressures, high morale and awareness of the fact that the most important [word indistinct] stage had begun, it was natural for the Muslim people of Iran to reject the offensive of the enemy and demand compensation for their violated rights. We would like to recall at this point that Western propaganda organs committed a great blunder. They believed at the time the unwavering resistance of the Muslim people of Iran was a manifestation of their patriotic feelings and thus, they would eventually be forced to retreat, even relinquish their rights. They failed to realize the fact that the resistance the Iranian people, who regard martyrdom with reverent admiration and devotion, have put up against the foreign enemy is inspired by Khomeyni's religion, the confidence they have in the path they follow and the great objective in front of them.

The aggressive Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime, which contemplated to end the war by occupying the Islamic Republic of Iran within a period of 3 days, suddenly found itself in a devastating windstorm. The only thing that would save it from this windstorm was to seek aid from the powers which provoked it to attack the Islamic Republic. It will be recalled that numerous peace missions were sent to Iran in the past. Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic was subjected to heavy political propaganda pressures. However, all efforts made to date have yielded no result.

That Western propaganda organs have been confused as a result of the outcome of Iraq's war against Iran and that they have thus begun a coordinated propaganda campaign against the Islamic republic's just stand, proves clearly that the superpowers have lost control over the future of the war. The superpowers can only turn the war into one of attrition and, in fact, that is what they are trying to do at the moment. However, they are definitely not capable of changing the final outcome of the war.

The latest initiative of Western propagandists has been aimed at creating a favorable atmosphere for themselves prior to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit and the great defeat suffered by the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime during the final session of the conference [sentence as heard]. The Western propagandists vested their greatest hopes in the nonaligned conference sessions in Delhi. In fact, they hoped that they would be able to bring serious pressure to bear on the Islamic Republic of Iran with a view to saving Saddam. Here is what the Zionist regime's radio said on 8 February:

One dispute which disturbed the nonaligned conference most was the Iran-Iraq war.

Touching on the same subject, Moscow Radio announced that the Soviet Union, as the representative of the Eastern bloc, was prepared to agree to any initiative. Here is what Moscow Radio said on 1 March:

The objective of U.S. imperialists in kindling the Iran-Iraq war and in endeavoring to prolong the fighting is to weaken the two warring nonaligned countries.

On 6 March, Voice of America said the following:

The Arab Countries are deliberating on a new plan for ending the Iran-Iraq war. The new plan will ask the United Nations to impose an embargo on any one of the two warring countries which tries to avoid ending the war.

At the time, a number of moderate Arab countries arrived at this decision, the Islamic Peace Committee [title as heard] held a meeting in Delhi. One of the foreign radios said the following on the matter:

The Islamic Conference Organization has asked Iran and Iraq to put an immediate end to the war and begin talks on the question of liberating Palestine and Jerusalem.

We do not know the kind of link the Islamic Peace Committee has drawn between the ending of the war in favor of the aggressor and the liberation of Palestine and Jerusalem. However, we deem it necessary to ponder on the matter. It will be recalled that the fact that official agreements and links do exist between the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime and the Zionist regime [in Tel Aviv] was made public in the past. Therefore, we must categorically state that the war for liberating Jerusalem must be continued until the aggressor is destroyed. The Iraqi Army, which has been employed by the Zionists to check the advance of the Islamic Liberation Army, and the Iraqi Ba'thist regime, which is an ally of the Zionists, must be removed from the scene. Thus, the path leading to the liberation of Jerusalem will have been opened.

What is expected of the Islamic Republic of Iran under the circumstances? The Zionist regime's radio, in continuing to further the propaganda line of the superpowers, said the following in its broadcast on 2 March:

Because of its war against Iraq and because of its wish to occupy Arab lands, the Islamic Republic of Iran has isolated itself from many of the Islamic and Arab countries. It has no more ground left to maneuver in the eyes of the world opinion.

[GF171230] While Western powers moved to criticize the just stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the propaganda mouthpieces acted at the same time to talk about the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's peaceloving attitude. In fact, they aired numerous comments over their radios to that effect. On 12 March, BBC aired the following:

The Iraqi Government has clearly stated that it will agree to the decision of the nonaligned movement and take part in peace talks without preconditions.

It is understood that both the Iraqi regime and its international guardians [words indistinct] on the termination of the war against Iran. In fact, they continue in a meaningless manner to (?deny) the legal rights of the Muslim people of Iran.

In continuing its commentary, the same radio states: The representative of the Iraqi president at the Delhi conference, Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, has stated that they are prepared to agree to a solution with a view to ending the dispute between Iraq and Iran, adding that Iraq would not consider any suggestion for preconditions.

Actually, what the representative of Ba'thist and pro-Zionist Saddam said has revealed the dishonest moves made by the Iraqi regime, in that they mean that they do not wish to accept any of the legal rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The conclusion drawn from all this is that the imposition of a ceasefire and the commencement of peace talks are regarded by the Iraqi regime as the only means of reinforcing its armed forces with a view to launching a new offensive against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Confirming this view is the rearming of the Iraqi regime on a large scale. Now we present what the Zionist regime's radio aired on 14 March:

The Iraqi Government has begun talks for purchasing 100 modern fighter aircraft.

The aircraft referred to, which are known as Tornados, are manufactured jointly by Britain, the FRG and Italy. The cost of 100 Tornados totals \$3 billion. However, regardless of such propaganda games and cognizant of the conspiracies of international forces, the nonaligned movement assigned a committee chaired by India to tackle the question of the war and left it to the foreign ministers of those countries to decide the venue of the Eighth Nonaligned Summit. It will be recalled that the superpowers criticized the nonaligned movement most over the abovementioned two issues on which the nonaligned conference was very successful. Even foreign radios reacted strongly to them. Yes, here is what the Zionist regime's radio said on 12 March:

The Iran-Iraq war has prevented the nonaligned countries from reaching agreement (?on a common line regarding their stand on international matters).

Irrespective of the effort made and regardless of the propaganda war waged by the West, the superpowers have once again failed to achieve their objective in the political propaganda front. The just stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the line pursued by Iranian representatives in Delhi (?aborted) every conspiracy hatched against the Islamic republic. Regardless of the unity of all anti-Islamic forces against the Islamic Republic of Iran and irrespective of the coordinated conspiracies of these forces, the achievement of the above-mentioned result has proved that the line pursued by the Islamic republic is based on justice.

CSO: 3548/199

'NVOI' CALLS FOR RELEASE OF TUDEH LEADERS

TA041507 NVOI (Clandestine) in Persian 1930 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The Plot by World Arrogance and by the Ignorant Friends and Wise Enemies of the Revolution"]

[Excerpts] The arrest of true freedom-seekers and patriots affiliated with the true revolutionary forces provides indications that America through its elements within the country is at present hatching dangerous plots whose success or failure will have an enormous impact on the history of the struggles of our homeland's people. The arrest of the leaders of the Iranian Tudeh party and other true revolutionary forces shows very clearly that the U.S.-inspired counterrevolution is ready to implement its independence-destroying plan.

Now that arrogance and the counterrevolution have succeeded, by the hands of the ignorant friends of the revolution and under the impact of the wise enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in dragging the leaders of this party into prison, they have gained a suitable opportunity to carry out their ominous goals. Currently Tudeh-baiting brings to mind the climate that was created on the eve of the 19 August coup of the shah and America. Moreover, all the plots of the shah and imperialism against Iran's independence and freedom always started with Tudeh-baiting and with the hurling of accusations and slanders at this party, and ended with the arrest of all its leaders and members and all freedom-seekers.

The Iranian people who are acquainted with the entirely combative record of this party are well aware that not only are its leaders not guilty before the Iranian revolution, but they themselves are among the founders of this movement and revolution and among its sincere and steadfast defenders. The Iranian people, this time as well, by maintaining utmost vigilance against the plots of imperialism and its internal elements, will strive to neutralize and foil the treacherous plan against the revolution and its gains.

The people demand that the realistic leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by releasing from prison all true revolutionaries and the sincere followers of the revolution's and the imam's line, and by creating favorable and indiscriminating conditions that conform with the legal regulations of our Islamic republic for the activity of this party and all the revolutionary forces who are among the pillars of the revolution and among the effective elements of its perpetuation and expansion, will strike a hard blow to the mouth of imperialism and reaction.

TEXT OF FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 1983-1987 PUBLISHED

Tehran IRAN PRESS DIGEST in English 22, 29 Feb 83

[22 Feb 83, pp 5-9, Part VI]

[Text] General Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan, First Five Years 1362-1366

5.4. Water, Power, and Gas Sector

It has been estimated that the average growth rate of this sector's added value will be about 12.1 percent per year. The table No 5 will show the added value of above sectors classified by sub-sectors:

Table No 5-Added value of Water, Power, and Gas Sectors Classified by Sub-Sectors during First Plan

	1362		1363 (in billions of rials, 1361 fixed prices)							
					1364		1365		1366	
Water,Power and Gas	81	89.5	10.5	99.1	10.7	112.1	13.1	128.3	14.3	14.3
--Water	16.2		17.9	10.5	19.7	10.1	22.3	13.1	25.4	13.9
--Power	36.5		40.4	10.7	44.9	11.1	51.0	13.6	58.5	14.7
--Gas	28.3		31.2	10.2	34.5	10.6	38.8	12.4	44.3	14.2

Power and water will have faster growth rate respectively among the above sub-sectors, however the difference of growth rate is not considerable. The general guidelines and policies to formulate the above sectors plans are as follows:

1. Water, power, and gas plans should be directed toward offering services to agricultural industries as well as to rural and urban dwellers in which the deprived areas shall enjoy a higher priority.
2. Conservation and preservation plans, and full utilization of existing and inherent capacities will have priorities, and development of new capacities should be included considering the above points.

3. Tools and equipment required by the sector should be supplied locally as far as possible. Necessary co-operation should be made with the industrial sector to design and produce the materials and supplies required by the said sectors.

4. Formulation of specific pricing policy for sub-sectors and justifying such policies should be offered within the framework of sub-sectors plans.

5.5. Construction

There will be a comparatively fast growth rate average of 14.2 percent annually in this sector during the first plan. The added value of the said sector shall form 7.8 percent of the national gross product at the outset of plan increasing to 9.4 percent at the end of first plan. In other words the role of this sector in the overall economy will have an upward trend. Table No 6 is presenting the added value of construction sector by residential and non-residential sub-sectors.

Table No 6 Added Value of Construction Sector by Sub-Sectors

(in billions of rials, 1361 fixed prices)

	1362		1363		1364		1365		1366
Construction	782.5	897.9	14.2	1026.4	14.3	1172.3	14.2	1332.5	13.7
--Residentials	234.8	269.3	14.7	307.8	14.3	351.4	14.2	399.5	13.7
--Non-Residentials	547.7	628.6	14.8	718.6	14.3	820.9	14.2	933.0	13.7

In accordance with the guidelines set by the Economic Council the number of residential buildings to be constructed during the first plan is about 1,800,000 units. In connection with non-residentials (office buildings, roads, bridges, dams, railways, etc) the agencies concerned should present their construction operations plans within the framework of plan concerned. The general policies of construction sector are as follows:

(a) Residential buildings policies:

--The basic policy and the general trend in housing is to enable the people to meet the housing requirements of family. Operations will be run more by the non-government shall only provide the required ground and facilities.

--Distribution of construction activities in different towns of the country shall be handled with consideration to government policy in development of towns. Thus the pressure of housing shortage will continue to be felt in some of the large towns during the first five year plan.

--The general policy to determine the urban and rural housing shares shall be directed toward allowing priorities to meeting the requirements of rural communities considering their production powers, feasibility to improve production methods, and the possibility to attract investments in rural areas.

--In view of the fact that it will not be possible to raise the quality of existing housing buildings and meeting the housing shortages at once, the general policy during the initial phases and preliminary period will be to meet the initial and minimum housing requirements, reduce the residential density, to be followed by gradual quality enhancement of family housing along with development of financial and technical facilities. Thus the average under construction area of housing units will be curtailed during the first 5 year plan and then increased gradually during the following periods. During the 5 years of first plan, the emphasis will be on traditional methods of construction, using the local materials, and employing methods, however the industrial methods and capital consuming way of higher efficiency will be considered in future development plans. So during the process of first 5 year plan; physical conditions, the area under construction, financial power of low income classes as well as the shortage of land within the large towns limits should be formulated and included in the plan.

Along with formulating of the housing units distribution plan and making the required standards and conditions of area under construction and materials in the housing sector plan, it is necessary to estimate the amount of materials required throughout the country and co-operation to be made with the sectors concerned (industry) on the supply and making the production plans.

(b) Non-residentials Policies:

The provincial distribution of such activities (roads, canals, dams, schools, etc) should be made considering specific priorities of deprived provinces so that the development of required infra-structural networks to carry out further production plans in such provinces can be possible during the following plans.

--The activities of this sub-sector is particularly required to be formulated towards offering services to productive activities specially the agriculture.

--The plans of agencies concerned are required to cover the necessary plans for repairs and maintenance of available facilities.

5.6. Services

This sector covers a wide range of activities. The activities of this sector include the most important economic and social activities such as education and training, transportation, communications, social health and welfare, banking, real estate services, professional services, general services (ministries and offices), private and household services restaurants, hotels, and commerce.

The services sector is currently holding a great share of gross national product due to stagnation of productive activities. The sector's share in total gross national product is estimated to be about 45.9 percent during 1362. The ratio shall drop to 37.7 percent during the plan period. The structure of activities forming the sector should also undergo a basic change. An unreasonable ratio of the sector's activities is currently devoted to non-productive and intermediate services.

Considering the objectives of Iranian Islamic Republic, it is essential to increase the ratio of productive services, educational and welfare services and to reduce the share of non-productive services in the overall services sector. The growth of important sub-sectors of services are estimated as follows:

5.6.1. Transportation and Communications

In view of the significance held by communications development in the overall services sector, the close connection and dependence existing between production sectors development with communications and transportation, the sector will enjoy a considerable growth suitable with services required by other sectors in a way that the added value of transportation shall increase from 760.2 billion rials in 1362 to 1069.1 billion rials by the end of first plan in 1366, averaging an annual growth rate of 8.9 percent.

The added value of communications shall increase from 86.4 billion rials in 1361 to 142.6 billion rials in 1366 enjoying an average growth rate of 13.3 percent per year.

The general development policies and objectives of transportation and communications shall include the following points:

- Connection of deprived population centers with country's roads network (rural and regional feeder roads).
- To provide a safe and suitable road transportation network for the movement of cargo and passenger, to meet the requirements of economic-social development, and to support the country's defense foundation (feeder, border, principal roads and freeways).
- To stress on maintenance, improvement, and highest utilization of the available capacities of roads and railway network as well as other infra-structural installations.
- To increase the public transportation to move the cargo and passenger.
- To complete the half-finished projects to utilize the past investments and to stress on launching road projects within operating powers and consequently shortening the completion time of projects.
- To develop the railways network and to increase the efficiency of present network suitable to the country's economic structure.
- To build smaller ports along the southern shores to establish fishing facilities and to increase the income level of the region's inhabitants.
- To develop and expand the commercial fleet in a way to take over gradually a reasonable portion of the country's sea transportation.
- To stress on comparatively labour-user operating methods during the first plan particularly in areas with adequate manpower.

--To develop close coordination and connection between the transportation network development plans and development of production and commercial sectors.

--To conduct required researches to find suitable structure patterns based upon climatic and geographic conditions of country.

--The self-sufficiency policy of service units in this sector will be stressed in a way that such units will not only finance their own operating expenses, but would contribute to investments of sector by increasing profitability.

5.6.2. Educational and Social Services

This part of services which is of special importance in Iranian Islamic Republic plans include education, health, medical care and social security, and details of first plan goals and objectives in each of the above points are as follows:

(a) Education:

Whereas illiteracy and lack of knowledge is considered one of the impediments of human and society's evolution, therefore one of the major development objectives should be the fast expansion of the educational facilities as well as Islamization of education. The 5 year plan of education sector should cover projects on illiteracy campaigns, elementary education, guidance course education, high school education, and higher education.

Table No 7 shall present the quantitative goals of different educational levels. Also the goals and policies of each sub-sector are given separately as follows:

a) 1. Anti-illiteracy Campaign:

The basic goal in this point is the total elimination of illiteracy within two plans at the longest. Based upon available statistics, there has been about 15.5 million illiterate people out of the over-seven year old population in 1361. Therefore the first plan's goal is to educational services to a minimum of seven million people. In view of the fact that the illiterate adults are generally employed and responsible for a family, literacy facilities should be provided therefore in a way to avoid interruption of their work and activities and to provide the required motives to induce and encourage illiterates to join the literacy courses.

a) 2. Elementary Education:

The specific goals for this sub-sector is to increase the present coverage of elementary education which is about 81.8 percent of 6-10 year old population to 86.7 percent by the end of the first plan. It is found necessary to explain that the above is the actual coverage representing the number of elementary school students within the 6-10 age group to 6-10 year age population. Computing the ratio of total elementary school students (within and outside of 6-10 year age group) to the 6-10 year age population the ratio is currently 102 percent reaching 108 percent by the end of first plan.

It should be noted that to reach the above goal, crusade methods should be also fully applied in addition to classic methods. Considering the shortage of teachers, educational space and equipment, it is necessary to use mosques tents, and other spaces apart from schools as well as all people and young men who can teach intensive or crush courses. Achievement of above goal during a 5 year course will make the use of revolutionary methods unavoidable.

a) 3. Guidance Course Education:

The goal in this sub-sector is to increase the coverage of teachable population from the current 57.2 percent to 79 percent by the end of first plan. (It should be noted that the above figures is the ratio of total number of guidance course students within and out of 11-13 year age group to the population in the 11-13 year age group).

A) 4. High School Education:

The goal of the sub-sector is to increase the current coverage of 32 percent to 41 percent of teachable population by 1366. In high school education, apart from increasing the required education coverage, it is necessary to change the educational texture in a way that higher stress is placed on technical and vocational education, and the plans of this sub-sector are to be projected in a way to reduce the share of general high school education in the overall high school education and to increase the percentage share of technical and vocational education.

An estimation of high school students composition during the first plan is given in Table No 7.

[29 Feb 83, pp 5-9 , Part VII]

[Text] a) 5. Higher Education and Researches:

The need of an Islamic society to command over technology and sciences of the time requires a fundamental attention to higher education. The higher education in Islamic Republic will have two basic aspects; first to provide the ground for the growth of personality and refinement of youth and to make them familiar with original Islamic culture, second to educate them with sciences and technology, and to conduct researches in different fields in a way that the out come will serve the Islamic society and its goals. Based upon the available estimations the number of college students is about 150,000 in the first year forming about 2.6 percent of the country's active population.

Whereas the possibility to have fast development of higher education in a short term is limited, the goal set for this sub-sector to be achieved by the last of first plan is to increase the number of college students from 2.6 to 3.4 percent of the active population representing an increase to 220,000 students by 1366. Based upon the professors to students ratio of 1/20, the number of professors should be increased to 6,500 by 1366. The increase in number of professors of different fields and the higher education development plan should be generally formulated considering the country's developments of specialized powers.

The development of researches in solution of economic-social problems and to support the country's academic and technological powers is of great importance in the first plan. Financial resources allocated to researches shall be increased from 0.4 percent of national gross product in 1361 to one percent of GNP in 1366. The fast growth rate of researches requires that all sectors shall devote special attention to research plans and allocate the required national resources to researchers proportionate to those plans.

Such research projects should be substantially assigned to universities so that while supporting the financial powers of universities, their bond can be strengthened with society, and universities scientific and mental powers can be used in solution of development problems.

In addition to above points, kindergarten and nursery schools education is also worth attention. There are about 212,000 people using this type of education, and the first plan's goal is to increase the number to 312,000 by 1366.

Table No 7

Projected Education Development During First Plan
(1362-1366)

Sub-Sectors	Figures in Million					
	1361 (Est)	1362	1363	1364	1365	1366
Elementary Education:						
Population in age group 6-10	5.5	5.8	6.-	6.3	6.5	6.8
Total Number of students	5.6	6.-	6.3	6.6	7.-	7.3
Number of students in age group of 6-10	4.5	4.8	5.-	5.3	5.6	5.9
Coverage Percentage	81.8	83.-	84.-	85.-	85.8	86.7
Guidance Course Education:						
Population of age group 11-13	3.2	3.24	3.27	3.31	3.34	3.38
Number of students	1.80	1.95	2.15	2.35	2.53	2.67
Coverage Percentage	57.2	60.3	65.9	71.-	75.8	79
High School Education:						
Population of age group 14-17	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.-	4.-	4.2
Number of students	1.17	1.25	1.35	1.46	1.58	1.72
Coverage Percentage	32	33	35	36	38	41

Table No 7 continued

Distribution of High School Education Between General, Technical and Vocation:

Number of students						
General High School Education	1.02	1.08	1.15	1.22	1.29	1.37
Percentage of General Students to total	87.-	86.-	85.-	84.-	82.-	80.-
Number of Students in Technical and Vocational School	150	170	200	240	290	350
Percentage of Students in Technical and Vocational Schools	13.-	14.-	15.-	16.-	18.-	20.-

Kindergarten Education:

Number of Students (in thousands)	212	229	247	267	288	312
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b) Health and Medical Care:

Based upon the available studies, achievement of the standards given in Table B-1 is necessary to meet the minimum requirements of society's medical services.

B-1 Important Standards of Health and Medical Care Services Requirements

Doctors	1 Doctor per thousand number of population
Dentists	1 Dentist per 10,000 number of population
Nurses and Medics	16 Nurses and Medics per 25 hospital beds
Hospital Beds	4 Beds per thousand of population

Regretfully, due to problems amassed from the past regime, the present situation indexes are far below the standards as shown in table B-4. The increase of such indexes to an optimum level which will be possible only through training of specialized personnel and providing some comparatively complex installations requires a long time and will not be practicable during the course of one plan only. Therefore, trying to raise the said indexes, the priority will be given to development of health compared with medical care to take some preventive measures of diseases during the first plan.

Considering the above general policy and in view of the manpower and physical facilities, the development goals of health and medical care facilities and equipment during the first plan will be as illustrated in table No B-2.

Table B-2 Health and Medical Care Facilities and
Equipment During the First Plan

	Present Situation	62-66	Total by End of Plan
Health Houses	3000	2600	5600
Health and Medical care Centers	2900	650	3550
County Health Centers	124	36	160
Provincial Health Centers	10	10	20
Provincial Training and Research Complexes	5	5	10
Hospital Beds	59000	19000	78000

In addition to above points, potable water will be supplied to 12500 rural areas, 1500 public baths, 750 morgues, and 650,000 sanitary toilets will be renovated or built.

Using the said facilities, development of health and medical care services during the first plan will be as follows:

1. Immunization of 70 percent of vulnerable population against six basic preventable diseases (diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, and tuberculosis).
2. In view of the socio-economic importance of malaria, total elimination plan of the disease in the attack and difficult areas will be conducted with required pursuit and the population exposed to hazard will benefit from the required services.
3. Medical research projects and studies in all communicable and non-communicable diseases with average coverage of 5 to 10 percent of all age groups will be conducted.
4. About 45 percent children, students, and women of fertility age will receive health and medical care supports, and 25 percent of children below 5 years old, pregnant and feeding women shall enjoy nutritional services.
5. Out patient and hospitalization services for all people, with average frequency of about 3.5 times per year and 0.4 hospitalization day. Manpower required to offer the said services are as shown in table B-3.

Table B-3. Goals of Health and Medical Care Manpower
during the First Plan

	Present Situation	Increase Dur. 62-66	Total in 66
Physicians	15000	3000	18000
Dentists	3200	700	2900
Pharmacists	3000	600	3600
Pharmacological Technicians	1700	1800	3500
Health Technicians (anti-diseases campaigns, family health and environmental health)	8000	6400	14400
Nurses and Medics	23000	13500	36500
Midwives and Midwife Medics	1700	1550	3250
First Aid and Health Services			
Assistant personnel (Health Houses)	3000	5000	8000
Other Health-Medical Care Personnel	35000	9000	44000

Upon completing the above plan, the health and medical care indexes will change during the first plan as shown in Table B-4.

Table B-4. Major Standards to Achieve Health and Medical
Care Services during the First Plan

Description	1361	1366
Doctors per 1000 population	0.37	0.38
Dentists per 10000 population	0.54	0.60
Pharmacists per 10000 population	0.7	0.8
Health experts and technicians per 10000 population	1.9	3.6
Nurses and Medics per 25 Hospital Beds	9.75	11.6
Hospital Beds per 1000 population	1.45	1.65

Social Insurance:

The available data indicates that about 4 million people (ten percent of population) are covered by social insurance in 1361 (excluding medical insurance). Apart from the financial resources, the basic restriction to develop such services is the special organizational and management facilities required by such services.

Therefore formulation of this sub-sector's plan requires to cover the ways to secure the financial resources (government, employers and insured) as well as organizing and appointment of an efficient management.

The quantitative goals of this sub-sectors are as follows:

Projected Population to be Covered by Other Social Insurances
During the Years of First Plan (1362-1366)

Description	1361	1362	1363	1364	1365	1366
Coverage Percentage	10	11	13	16	20	25
Covered Population (in millions)	4	4.5	5.4	7.	9.	11.8

C.2. Welfare

The program covers four basic plans including; support and welfare services plan, rehabilitation and disabled services, social works services plan, and reconstruction services plan of social offenders and violators (correction centers and prisons).

--The present support and welfare services plan covers about 4 million people throughout the country. Considering the available facilities and the capacity to develop such services, it is projected that 5.6 million people will be covered by such services in 1366.

--In rehabilitation and disabled welfare services it should be noted that the needs to special skills and suitable facilities is restricting the development of such services and therefore there will be no way to have ideal development of such services within a very short term. Despite the existing restrictions, considering the damages caused by the imposed war, it is projected by the first plan to increase the present coverage of 55000 in 1361 to 230,000 people by the end of 1366.

CSO: 4600/432

BRIEFS

TABATABA'I'S RETURN FROM FRG--Compatriots, Saddeq Tabataba'i, the originator of opium diplomacy, returned to the Islamic country on Wednesday night on the instructions of 'Ali Akbar Velayati, director of diplomacy of the Islamic republic, who summoned him to report on his assignment. Yes, Seyyed, the son of prophet depending on the divine assistance [word indistinct] and the mercy of acting of the lord of the age, Imam Khomeyni, and his rightful deputy Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister of the FRG, rode on desired donkey, meaning, Tabataba'i got on board of a Lufthansa flight and returned to the Islamic country. The FRG Foreign Office freed and deported Saddeq Tabataba'i, this vulgar criminal, for two reasons. First, the economic relations between the FRG and the Islamic Republic of Iran must not be jeopardized by a trial. Second, [words indistinct] the German diplomats in the Islamic republic would be in danger if Saddeq Tabataba'i were convicted. Consider it: a group of criminals and gangsters in religious garb in the Islamic republic, who have sentenced groups of addicts to death in the unjust courts of a madman named Khalkhali, [words indistinct] will apply any means possible to free the delicate brother-in-law of Sayyed Ahmad Khomeyni from prison while thousands of our compatriots in the dungeons of Khomeyni cannot find a place to stretch their legs. [Excerpts] [GF121858 Radio Iran (Clandestine) in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Mar 83]

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH URUGUAY--The Ministry of Commerce has revealed that the visit paid by a Uruguayan trade delegation to the Islamic Republic of Iran has ended with the signing of a bilateral trade agreement. Uruguay will purchase half of its oil requirement from Iran, and in return Iran will purchase a substantial amount of foodstuffs from that country. Iran will also buy tens of thousands of tons of meat, wheat, rice, butter and frozen chicken from Uruguay. This is the second bilateral deal concluded between the two countries in the past year. As a result of the first agreement, the volume of trade between the two countries has risen to over \$200 million. [LD180258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Mar 83 LD]

ITALIAN AIRLINE FLIGHTS--Tehran, March 16 IRNA--With the establishment of security in the Iranian air space, Alitalia Air Lines will resume nonstop flights between Tehran and Rome as of Thursday, March 17, according to an informed official of the said company. Talking to IRNA, the official added that his company which commended flights to Iran in 1958, had to stop its services despite its inward wish following the aggression of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and its air raids against the Islamic Republic of Iran. He further said that with the establishment of the aerial security since one year ago, most pilots of international air lines have expressed their satisfaction and the Alitalia Air Lines have taken necessary measures to resume flights to Tehran. [Text] [GF161812 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 16 Mar 83]

MAJLIS APPROVES BUDGET--Tehran, March 17 (IRNA)--Majlis today approved the budget bill for the coming Iranian year, beginning March 21. In its open session, presided over by Majlis speaker Hojjatol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, debate on the bill continued and finally the bill was approved. The bill which was presented to the Majlis by the government a few weeks ago, would need the final approval of the Guardian's Council. In another session this afternoon, the council is due to attend the Majlis to evaluate the bill. [Text] [LD171226 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 17 Mar 83]

CSO: 4600/426

BARRIER TO EXPORTS RESENTED

Karachi ECONOMIC REVIEW in English Vol 19, No 2, Feb 83 pp 9-10

[Article by Abdul Majeed Khan]

[Text] Exports of engineering goods and skill from the developing countries, now face a new kind of barrier. How Pakistan faces this obstacle, is vividly illustrated by the following two examples.

The underdeveloped countries, on paper, are assisted by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, International Finance Corporation and other agencies to develop their economies. For extension of each loan or credit there is a cost, sometime more harmful than the disease itself, the disease of underdevelopment and poverty. The great team of doctors at the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, selected mostly from the bankers of the developed market economy countries suggest measures to the ailing developing countries to heal their economic diseases. However, sometimes, such cures like the superfluous drugs of the western countries which are declared unfit for human treatment are doled out to developing countries to control their population growth, prove fatal.

The western countries try to export more to developing countries but do not want to import much from there. For considerable time such policy has been on bilateral basis. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, generally, did not come into the picture. But of late, these agencies have started interfering in such matters. They have started asking the borrowing countries to import material from countries according to their choice. This is a highly dangerous development. The developing countries; in the

UNCTAD's four annual meetings and on other occasions have tried to find ways and means to promote co-operation among themselves or to increase ties with the East. The developing countries are suffering immensely at the hands of the western developed countries and any further increase in their sufferings may widen the political gap between the first and third worlds. Two events have come to light recently both hitting Pakistan badly. Both were as a result of the doings of the World Bank.

A contract for 132 kv transmission line was awarded by Sri Lanka to a Pakistani engineering firm for a value of ten million dollars — an insignificant amount by World Bank standard. As an Indian firm was also bidding for this contract, the World Bank under the influence of the Indian lobby in Washington refused to finance the project. Nevertheless, the finances were cleared only when it was proved that the Indians were not able to do the job.

The Indonesian case is the latest. The World Bank is understood to have been putting pressure on Indonesia to exclude Pakistan Railways from bidding in a tender for coaches in this case. Railway coaches built in Pakistan are not only being used in the country but have been exported to other countries like Bangladesh.

Such actions of the World Bank retard the development of the poor countries. These stand in the way of their economic growth, technological developments, removal of poverty and the easing of their balance of payments position. They get loans and credits with some future costs which are a heavy burden on the weak shoulders of their masses as debt servicing, to develop their economies to create exportable surplus and to ease their balance of payments position in addition to repay their loans. Any transfer of technology among the developing countries is somewhat easier than to get it from the developed countries which are very miser in this respect.

Pakistan is helping Indonesia in developing her economy because of the friendly ties between the two countries through bilateral IPECC and multilateral Colombo Plan and the Organisation of the Islamic Countries and its affiliated agencies. Not only

machinery is being supplied for some big sugar mills in that country but also assistance is being provided to fabricate some of the machinery in Indonesia itself. This means a great technological advance for that brotherly country.

Pakistani railway coaches, if exported to Indonesia would be of great use to that country. Bangladesh is using these and she is developing her railway services with the assistance of Pakistan. The World Bank should know it that Pakistani coaches are fabricated in public sector under strict quality control and there is no shortage of funds with Pakistan Railways for production and export.

Islamabad Carriage Factory is the most modern factory set up with the collaboration of Linke Hoffman Busch of West Germany in 1971. The factory is equipped to manufacture large part of the components. The ratio of local to imported component is 80/20. The factory has already supplied about 200 coaches to Bangladesh. Pakistan Railways has recently secured a 103 million dollar contract for laying 106 kilometer railway tract in Saudi Arabia between Hafoof and Dammam. The track would be built within 26 months and the contract was won against the competition of France, Italy, Germany, England and Japan. Pakistan Railways are also collaborating with Iran and Zimbabwe in the field of operation and maintenance of diesel electric locomotives.

Thus it is desirable that Pakistan should be allowed to participate in the bid so that its under-utilized carriage making capacity may be put to profitable use. Moreover, Pakistan Embassy in Washington should take up this issue with the World Bank so that Pakistan bidders may not be disallowed to put forward their bids in the international tenders.

SECTARIAN DIVISIONS CONDEMNED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 24 Feb 83 p 7

[From the "Between the Lines" column by Linesman: "Rush to Apostasy"]

[Text]

MANY SCHOLARS and students of history believe, with good reason, that the absence of a priesthood has helped Islam to remain for millions a living faith, something more than a ritual; and that this has prevented the greater exploitation and misuse of religion through the creation of narrow vested interests.

Islam has, it is explained, escaped such large-scale crises as the great schisms caused by the Church of Rome — with its doctrine of Papal infallibility, its rigid adherence to dogma, its attempts to take unto itself that which belonged to Caesar, or unwitting efforts to promote stasis through movements like the Inquisition. Yet, since Islam spread to alien climes and the Muslim peoples drifted into rule by kings and were subjected to a feudal set-up, their way of life underwent retrogressive change as laws and principles were bent to suit the ruler and the powerful feudal elite or imbibed local customs and traditions. National antagonisms have also played a part in fomenting inter-tribe strife. However, the factor that has weakened Muslims the most was the phenomenon of sharp theological disputes which led rival men of learning to claim infallibility, even Divine inspiration, and thus persuaded them to anathematise adherents of other schools of thought as renegades and ultimately as non-believers. This rush to apostasy, whatever the motivation, has seemingly done more harm to the Muslims than any other divisive

development, creating antagonisms and deepening rifts, and preventing a common sense consensus on interpretations of the Holy Book or learning the right lessons from the traditions.

Intolerance

Not only has such disputation caused serious, long-lasting conflicts, but it has often rent the social fabric and held up the progress of Muslim nations which obviously remains dependent on national cohesion and unity. Intolerance and refusal to accept differences of opinion as honest manifestations of faith have sometimes caused hatred and bloodshed among otherwise reasonable people. Last week's Lahore incident, when a small demonstration by women was lathi-charged by the police, has provoked some ulema to declare that merely by questioning the proposed change in the Law of Evidence these women had become guilty of "rebellion against the word of God", and that they should be treated as apostates or, at least, their marriages annulled. The wording of the Quranic Surah cited, which suggests the two-women-one-man formula for evidence, seemingly restricts it to certain money matters and its application generally to other matters where women could have direct

knowledge of a case is, at least, open to debate. However, the important point that needs to be made is that any difference in interpretation of an injunction should not be taken immediately to the level of disbelief or lack of faith. Further, as Iqbal has clearly explained, it is the right and duty of the Muslim people to act on the principle of Ijtihad, and evolve norms and laws in accordance with their present situation, as long as they do not offend the basic tenets of Islam. The fact that in most Muslim countries the law of evidence is not based on this formula does not make these nations lesser Muslims, nor does it condemn them to perdition. It is reasonable, therefore, to suggest that the matter should be debated on a rational level, and any change in the law left for determination by an elected assembly which will necessarily be guided by the people's political will. This is all the more necessary because Pakistan is faced with a host of major issues and it is inadvisable to divert the people's attention from matters of such great import. Having lived with the present law for centuries, a few more months or years will make no great difference.

Nor is the danger of sectarian clashes arising from theological disputation limited to the question of evidence by women. Leaders of different sects, clinging with fervour to particular beliefs or interpretations, have pronounced anathema against all others, demanding bans on their books, restrictions on their mosques and

preachers. Lately, the demand has been made that Pakistan should be declared a Sunni State, because a majority of its people belong to this sect; from this the next step will be the call for a Deobandi, Brelvi or Wahabi State. Where will this end? Already it has been argued in certain newspapers, belonging to a particular political party, that mosques built or used by one sect should not be allowed to function in localities where a majority of the people belong to another sect. Clearly these and similar manifestations of intolerance can only plunge the nation into sectarian polemics, creating the risk of clashes. The maulanas and muftis who are so eager to pronounce judgements against their peers of different persuasions would be well advised to restrain themselves, because in the long run they are not likely to do much good to their followers but are certainly going to create a great deal of chaos and confusion that will damage the country.

These are critical times. It is of crucial importance, therefore, that those in a position to influence events should not say or do anything that can encourage disharmony and foment trouble. They must, if they possess the capacity to see the dangers that are being raised, give guidance that can lead our people to tolerance and goodwill among all sects and all religious communities, so that the nation does not suffer the unavoidable consequences of such strife.

INQUIRY INTO SECTARIAN RIOTING SUPPORTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 3 Mar 83 p 7

[From the "Between the Lines" column by Linesman]

(Text)

THE ANNOUNCEMENT that an inquiry commission will soon be appointed by the local Martial Law authorities to probe the recent sectarian rioting in Karachi is certainly welcome, but it can be presumed that this investigation will limit itself to the law-and-order aspect of the matter. This, clearly, is not enough.

Although the commission's terms of reference have not been revealed yet, the Interior Minister's statement in the Advisory Council indicates that the ambit of the body's prescribed functions will be restricted. Mahmud Haroon told the FAC that the Karachi issue had been solved amicably by Shias and Sunnis and that the recent riots had "nothing to do with the issue". He declared that responsibility for the rioting rested on "elements who did not want that the Islamic system should progress in the country," and hence they were creating hurdles in the way of Islamisation. A contrary view has also been adumbrated, namely, that the sectarian clash was the handiwork of agents provocateur whose aim was to create confusion and disruption in order to divert public attention from such fundamental questions as the restitution of civil and political rights and the early return to democracy.

The reality

Even if there is a grain of truth in either (or both) of these allegations, those aware of the situation in Pakistan cannot shut their eyes to the

reality of growing sectarian differences. Nor can one ignore the fact that when a clash of opinions on religious matters leads to confrontation — either between rival protagonists or between one of them and Authority —, the danger exists that there will also be a physical clash; then what the Minister rightly described as inconceivable often does take place — "the shedding of Muslim blood by other Muslims in the name of Islam." In the present case, the CMLA-President's comment on the happening seems to be closer to the truth. He said that the matter was purely a local affair, that no alien or political elements had a hand in it, and that selfish interests were trying to take advantage of the situation. However, even if this assessment is correct, the point to accept and understand is that it is only when an atmosphere of sectarian tension, resulting from unredressed (or unredressable) grievances, has been built up that such situations can and do develop.

In our sub-continent, Shia-Sunni differences have a long history and their harmful consequences to the two sects and the Muslim community present a long catalogue. Over recent years, these differences have surfaced in Pakistan, and they have not been confined to local disputes over hostile speeches by the ulema of one sect against another or procession routes and tazias. More than a decade ago, the first agitation was concerned with the syllabi introduced for the

study of Islamiyat. This dispute was ultimately settled by having more than one syllabus, though this tended to demarcate and, thus, widen a rift among Muslims. Instead of making an earnest effort to devise a course of studies based on a consensus acceptable to all sects, the easy way out was found to satisfy the self-appointed custodians of Sunni or Shia conscience. Later, disputes arose over the implementation of Zakat and Ushr laws. This led to the Shia demonstration in Islamabad where the matter was seemingly settled by making concessions to the Fiqh-e-Jafaria.

Remediable problems

Since then the simmering of discontent was noticeable, but no one seems to have taken notice of it. What happened in Karachi is undoubtedly limited to a particular situation. The dispute could and should have been settled long years ago, if the administration had been a little more alert and realised the risk of the tensions coming to a boil, when property belonging to one sect was attacked and burnt by antagonists and even mosques or other places of worship were not spared. The speeches delivered during different phases of the agitation leave no doubt that the cleavage is deeper than the leaders of the present Government seem prepared to admit. This harsh fact must be faced and honest efforts made to

re-establish and preserve good relations between different sects and communities in Pakistan.

Happily, in respect of the present episode the vast body of political and religious opinion-makers have strongly deplored the rioting and regretted the provocations that led to it. This rational approach must be solidified and all sections of opinion persuaded to go further and mobilise mass opinion to ensure that in the future no such incident will be allowed to escalate into confrontation and violent clashes. To achieve this desideratum, it is essential, first, that the Administration should act and be seen by all to act with impartiality in matters concerned with different religious beliefs. Propagation of the claim that the Government is partisan or that the Islamic State in Pakistan means allowing the domination of one sect, (even if it happens to be in a majority) inspires fearful dangers of increasing sectarian strife. This aspect calls for urgent attention.

A useful purpose may be served, therefore, if apart from the inquiry already ordered into the administrative aspects of the Karachi events, two judges of high repute are appointed to probe the other facets of the matter, and make proposals that would help safeguard the unity and cohesion of the nation by ensuring that religious differences do not impinge on society and the body politic.

STRICT CONTROL OVER REFUGEE AFFAIRS RECOMMENDED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 3 Mar 83 p 8

[Text]

THE INTERIOR Minister's assurance that Afghan refugees are not allowed to purchase immovable property in Pakistan without prior Government sanction, and that so far not a single refugee had received permission to do so, will help to allay anxiety that these happily-invited guests could well cause inconvenience and distress among their hosts.

Mahmud Haroon, however, went on to explain that the Afghans had been given special concessions to become transporters, but that the importation of commercial vehicles, buses, trucks, tractors and trailers, without payment of customs duty and sales tax, was permissible initially for three months only, although subject to further extensions.

The daily expenditure of \$ 1.5 million on maintaining the large number of Afghan refugees, is no small burden imposed on a people who are by no means affluent and many of whose requirements will consequently remain unsatisfied. However, the sacrifice is not purely financial. The presence of the Afghans affects the daily lives of many of our people in many ways. Then, the more enterprising among the Afghan refugees offer serious competition to their hosts in respect of commerce and labour. As for the special concession given to potential transporters, Government cannot be unaware of the fact that whenever possible every regulation in Pakistan is distorted by unscrupulous persons to serve their

own purpose; and the privilege of freely importing vehicles is bound to be misused in connivance with locals who would like to escape the liability of high taxes and duties. This whole matter needs to be probed. It is also necessary that in the matter of issuing route permits, Government must exercise sufficient discretion not to adversely affect the livelihood of existing Pakistani transport companies. Further, it is rumoured that since Identity Cards are generally accepted as a certificate of citizenship, some Afghan refugees who desire to take advantage of the privileges available only to Pakistani citizens, such as the purchase of property, have begun to acquire Identity Cards, though the means which are well known in this country, and thus try to evade the law.

It should be kept in mind that, however, eager Kabul and Islamabad might be to reach an early political settlement of the issue, and thus arrange for the return of refugees to their homeland, this will probably take some time. It is essential, therefore, that the rights of the Afghan refugees in Pakistan should be clearly determined, and the way to any wrongs accompanying their stay in Pakistan should be barred. Not only is this fair and reasonable, but it is also necessary to prevent any friction developing between the refugees and the local population.

Since there seems to be no let up in the influx and Afghan refugees are being allocated to more distant regions, the Government must not try to sweep these problems under the carpet but take urgent steps to deal with them sympathetically but firmly.

STATE OF PRESS EXAMINED; GOVERNMENT CONTROLS RESENTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 3 Mar 83 pp 5, 6

[Text] EVER since Field Marshal Mohammad Ayub Khan made a successful conquest of the Pakistan Press and consolidated his victory by establishing a Press Trust to control and manage the newspapers acquired as booty, promulgated the Press & Publications Ordinance to protect his domain and check competition, and sharpened such weapons as the supply of newsprint or distribution of Government advertisements — along with the application of other sundry laws and special regulations —, the Press in Pakistan has not been able to regain the freedom it had enjoyed in the first few years after independence. Thereafter, every successive regime, whatever its character, has plainly refused to relinquish the stranglehold gained over the printed media. At times, in many respects the reins have been held much tighter. For example, following the nationalization of the country's big industries, banks, and insurance companies, allotment of the bulk of advertisements available to newspapers became a prerogative of the Information Department, and this new right was used without scruple to feed friends and starve critics. Ignoring the promises made, and in defiance of the widely-accept-

ed principle that public funds devoted to publicizing State policies should be disbursed to suit a public purpose and not to serve partisan ends, advertisements were used as a lever to manipulate newspaper policies and even dictate appointment or dismissal of senior members of the staff.

Apart from these and similar pressures, newspapers have frequently been banned without recourse to the normal laws, without making executive decisions on any default by a publication subject to impartial adjudication. We see, thus, that the Press in Pakistan has undergone long periods of harsh checks and controls, punctuated by all too brief periods of some measure of freedom. For these and other reasons that have nothing to do with Government policies, the Pakistan Press has not matured and developed over the decades. Today, it enjoys little credibility anywhere. Even within the country access to the foreign media, particularly the radio, provides the most popular source of information (and at times misinformation) for our people. Plainly, if newspapers are to flourish and, at the same time, serve the public weal, then, like the saplings planted in biannual grow-more-trees weeks, they need

clean air and free sunshine as well as appropriate nourishment; they need to be saved from predatory foes; and they should be tended by careful hands trained for the purpose and interested in seeing that they flourish and prosper as institutions wedded to the nation's interests.

Expectations — which have tantalised the Press and the people over a long period — that the present regime would turn a new leaf have not yet been realized. This is shown up by the resolutions adopted at a recent meeting of the Standing Committee of the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors. Sounding like the replay of an old tune, the CPNE has called for the withdrawal of the Press and Publications Ordinance and implementation of the agreement finalised some years ago, between this organization and the Government, for the promulgation of an agreed Code of Ethics and the setting up of Special Press Benches. This arrangement was intended to give the country a Press that would be both free and responsible; but like many other good decisions the agreement has been kept in cold storage for so long that it may not be easy to revive it. The CPNE further expressed its strong disapproval of the practice of issuing Press advice which, it said, impinges on Press freedom. The Committee further expressed its grave concern over the continuation of Press pre-censorship on journals and periodicals (notwithstanding the assurance given by the Government in January 1982), calling upon the Government to lift these restrictions without any further loss of time. At the same time, a new 13-member com-

mittee was appointed to restart the dialogue with Government for the achievement of these and other aims for which the CPNE has been agitating for a long time.

Apart from these important issues, the APNS has raised the question of the use of Government-controlled advertisements as a means of tightening control over newspaper policies, and it has demanded that advertisements should be given on the basis of the circulation of publications and not for any other purpose. Diverging from this declared policy, two Federal Ministers have recently declared that advertisements would henceforth depend on the character of a newspaper and will be used in order to favour newspapers which support certain policies and punish those who do not do so — despite warnings. This is an important matter which needs to be discussed by representatives of the Press and the Government, so that Authority can be persuaded to accept and act on a principle that is widely honoured. The recent example of the British Government having had to abandon its plan for large media advertisements in favour of nuclear armament, after Press and Opposition criticism that this would be a highly improper way of furthering policy which was not backed by a national consensus, is a point worthy of study by our Ministers, even though this takes us to a different issue.

Lastly, it needs to be said again, and this should be accepted by all concerned, that the Press in Pakistan will rise to its proper stature only if it is nurtured in an atmosphere of freedom, when

journalists are permitted, even encouraged, to search for the truth and publish their honest opinions without any fear or restriction. Only then can the Press begin to reflect and guide public opinion and serve the purpose which gives it the designation of being the fourth pillar of the State. If the Press cannot fill its proper role, if it merely remains a vehicle for disseminating controlled news and views, it gradually loses the respect of the people and cannot even help to propagate successfully a particular point of view. Those who wield the mace of authority must realise that its over-use or misuse is wholly counter-productive, and that long-term results can best be achieved through an unshackled media, for experience has shown that one ounce of genuine support for a policy can be more effective than a ton of sycophantic praise.

CSO: 4600/425

CEMENT INDUSTRY DETAILS DISCUSSED

Karachi ECONOMIC REVIEW in English Vol 19 No 2, Feb 83 pp 31-33, 37

[Article by Shamim Sami]

[Text]

Cement production during the year ending June 30, 1982 stood at 3.658 million tonnes against 3.538 million tonnes in the preceding year showing a rise of about 3.39%. The rise was largely due to the commissioning of Mustehkam Cement (Expansion) Project in June, 1981. The other contributory factors were the raising of the sale price of cement during the year and imposition of duties on the import of coloured, white and grey cement in the budget for 1981-82.

Pakistan will start export of a big quantity of cement with the commissioning of all the newly sanctioned factories both in the public as well as in the private sector by 1986. With the commissioning of three new factories, the cement production is likely to go up to 4.30 million tonnes from 3.65 million tonnes per annum. The Cement Corporation of Pakistan would be needing only 650,000 tonnes of cement to meet the country's requirements which would be met through import of cement from various countries. The three new factories completed were Mustehkam expansion project, Javedan expansion and a new factory at Thatta. The fourth factory at Dandot would go into production this month while the factory at Kohat by the end of December. The expansion work of Daudkhel would be completed by 1985. It is expected that the private parties, who had started work on five new factories, would also complete their work by 1986, and would provide a big quantity of cement for export purposes. Before

the year 1976, Pakistan had been exporting one to two lakh tons of cement every year out of its total annual production of 3.0 million tonnes. However, the situation had eased during the last one year as a result of improvement in marketing system. Previously, there was no coordination among the factories. Now every factory had been given an area for distribution of cement to avoid overlapping. Before 1981, the shortage of cement from March was a usual phenomenon due to a number of reasons, particularly the government department became active during this period to utilise their allocations before the year was out.

Companies

There are five companies on Karachi Stock Exchange in the Cement Sector. Total paid-up these companies stood at Rs. 339.47 million during the year ending June 30, 1982, as compared to Rs. 306.40 million in the preceding year showing a rise of 10.79%. Asbestos Cement increased their paid-up capital to Rs. 85.02 million from 52.05 million by issue of right shares. Free reserves and surplus of the five companies stood at Rs. 303.19 million. Comparative Break-up Values of the five companies were as follows.

Break-up value of Zeal Pak, Mustehkam and Javedan registered an increase, while that of Asbestos and Gharibwal Cement declined. The Break-up value of Asbestos Cement declined due to increase in the paid-up capital from Rs. 52.05 million to Rs. 85.02 million in 1981 by issue

of bonus shares in the ratio of 1:6. The decline in the Break-up Value of Gharibwal was attributed to depletion of General Reserve due to provision of depreciation for tax holiday period.

Sales and Pretax Profit

Sales of all the companies recorded an increase with the exception of Asbestos which showed a decline of 3.51%. The erratic performance of Asbestos was attributed to low level of demand and stiff competition from various manufacturers of PVC Pipes besides large quantities of AC pressure pipe supplied by the other manufacturers in NWFP.

Javedan showed a marginal profit of Rs. 3.60 million against preceding years loss of Rs. 15.72 million. The decline in profit of Asbestos was due to the reasons already mentioned. In case of Mustehkam ex-factory price of cement

Break-Up Value Per Share of Rs. 10 (In rupees)		
Name	1982	1981
Zeal Pak	28.20	26.73
Gharibwal	17.49	20.02
Asbestos	17.10	23.17
Mustehkam	14.61	14.03
Javedan	10.24	8.37

Sales and Pretax Profit

(Rs. in million)

	Sales			Pretax Profit		
	1982	1981	% increase	1982	1981	% increase
Javedan	445.82	371.17	20.11	3.60 (-)	15.72	-
Zeal Pak	363.05	341.07	6.44	23.12	22.83	12.50
Mustehkam	308.46	127.09	142.70	14.26	15.43	(-) 7.51
Gharibwal	230.59	187.94	22.69	27.61	16.48	67.53
Asbestos	152.63	158.00	(-) 3.51	61.06	67.04	(-) 8.92

Capacity Utilization

Name	1982		Capacity Utilization
	Capacity	Production	
Gharibwal	540,000	555,050	102 %
Zeal Pak	1,080,000	946,225	87 %
Mustehkam	630,000	538,000	85 %
Javedan	600,000	436,285	72 %
Asbestos	47,220	25,091	53 %

was not sufficient and the government allowed a subsidy of Rs. 84 per ton. Shortage of gas is likely to affect the production in the coming year.

Gharibwal

From the above mentioned table it will be seen that capacity utilization of Gharibwal exceeded the rated capacity of the plant. This was the second year in succession when the production was over the rated capacity. The Company is planning to convert the existing plant into dry process either partially or in full with a view to control the consumptions of fuel. The company always faced the problem of availability of raw material. However, on the basis of investigations of PMDC workable reserves of lime stone and shale have been established to the tune of 83.649 million and 65.447 million tonnes respectively, and with the present level of consumption, the reserves are enough to last for over 100 years.

Zeal Pak

The production of Zeal Pak stood at 946,225 tonnes as compared to 1,054,325 tonnes in the preceding year. The capacity utilization worked out to 87% as compared to 97.52% of last year. According to the report the first half of year's loss of Rs. 15.72 million. The loss such as gas shortage, power shedding and the year was quite satisfactory but during the second half of the year the company faced difficulties such as gas shortage, power shedding and lesser off-take of cement during the year. It may be explained that the lesser off-take was due to flow of imported cement.

Mustehkam

Production capacity of Mustehkam showed a rise from 300,000 tonnes to 630,000 tonnes in 1981 with the commissioning of the new plant. The production during the year 1982 stood at 573,000 tonnes showing a capacity utilization of 85%. The production in the preceding year was 209,000 tonnes indicating a capacity utilization of 69%. The ex-factory price of cement was not sufficient to cover the cost. The Government allowed a subsidy of Rs. 84.00 per ton which enabled the company to earn a profit. Meanwhile, gas shortages were apprehended. The switch over from gas to oil was anticipated.

Javedan

Among the 4 cement companies in the table the capacity utilization of Javedan was the lowest at 72%. However, it was better than last year's 69%. The low production was due to sales problem faced by the company as a result of glut of imported cement in the market. The company could have achieved higher production if off-take of cement would have been better.

Asbestos

The capacity of Asbestos Cement Pipe Plants remained partly under utilised due to absenteeism of workers and mechanical and electrical breakdowns which also indirectly resulted in the under-utilisation of the capacity of rubber products factory. The capacity of Sheet Plant remained partly under-utilised due to considerable drop in demand of sheets. The maximum capacity of the plant has been revised to a lower figure because of the old age of the plant.

Import of Cement

Imports of cement showed a sharp rise increasing from Rs. 59.390 million in 1977-78 to Rs. 1125.100 million in 1981-82. Quantitywise imports of cement increased from 125,000 tonnes in 1977-78 to 4,941 million tonnes in 1981-82. Import of cement in the last five years was as follows:

Cement Import Code 6612001		
Year	Quantity	Value Rs. million
1977-78	125,000	59.390
1978-79	394,000	257.795
1979-80	470,000	415.169
1980-81	—	301.653
1981-82	4,943,310	1125.100

The total availability of cement during the year 1981-82 was 8.601 million tonnes about 3.658 million tonnes local production and 4.943 million tonnes imports. According to the Pakistan Economic Survey the demand for cement in 1982-83 is likely to be around 6.70 million tonnes. Thus there is a situation of glut in the market for cement.

A survey of Karachi mills reveals

that their clinkers are full of stocks, while the offtake of cement is very low. It may be mentioned here that the import of cement was allowed by the Government when there was an acute shortage to supplement the local production, not with the intention to continue it when the local industry can meet the requirement. Local production in 1981-82 as per State Bank Annual Report is 3.65 million, which does not include 6 lac tonnes per annum production from Javedan and Mustehkam cement factories, which have gone into production recently. Thus the total production tonnes, which is 3.0 million less than the estimated demand. Under these conditions the import of cement has not only created a glut in the local market but pricewise it has also put the locally produced cement on an incompetent footing.

New Cement Projects Cement Plant at Hub

A gigantic cement plant is being set up at Hub at an estimated cost of Rs. 865 million with daily production capacity of 2,000 tonnes. The plant is scheduled for completion in about two years time. Civil work has already started and erection of machinery will begin next month. The plant in the private sector is being set up by Attock Cement Pakistan with major shares held by a prominent Saudi industrialist, Dr. Ghaith Pharaon. The investment for the plant in Baluchistan is the largest investment in the private sector so far in the country.

Slag-Based Cement Plant

A cement plant mainly based on a new concept of raw material to be produced by Pakistani Steel is likely to be set-up in Karachi with its production capacity of 1,000 tonnes of cement per day.

The raw material is a slag which is a by-product of the Steel Mill. The total production of slag by the Steel Mill would be 4.25 lac tonnes per annum. The principal constituents of Blast Furnace Slag are: Oxides, Lime, Silicon Alumina and

Magnesia. There are, however, different types of slag, but Pakistan Steel will be producing Granulated Slag and its by-products are Slag Cement and Slag Blocks. This particular cement is useful for concrete foundations in sulphate-bearing clays or where the ground has been contaminated by waste from industrial processes. Slag bricks and slag blocks with their excellent physical properties and high comprehensive strength lend themselves to better use in multi-storeyed buildings. The Government is now considering to set up a cement plant based on 40 per cent slag (by-product of Pakistan Steel), the other raw materials being limestones, clay and Gypsum which are abundantly available in the country.

Galadari Cement Gulf Limited

Galadari Cement Gulf Limited, the most modern factory in the Indo-Pakistan Sub-Continent will be established at a cost of more than 100 million dollars for which the Galadari Brothers will bring in 30 million dollars (30 per cent of the project cost) in foreign exchange as equity capital. The new factory at Hub-Chowki will have a production capacity of 2,000 tonnes per day (dry process). The raw material for the production of cement will be available in abundance in the area.

Seventy five per cent of capital of the Galadari Cement Gulf Limited will be owned by Galadari Brothers while remaining 25 per cent would be offered to general public for subscription within one year's time. This new venture will provide employment to 500 persons. Seventy per cent capital will be mobilized through other sources. In this connection the Bankers Equity Limited would be arranging Rs. 390 million. The guarantee for suppliers credit will be provided by a Consortium of Bankers. An agreement with the Sui Gas Transmission Company was signed on the same terms and conditions as offered by the other company. Machinery for the plant is reported to be supplied by a prominent Japanese firm. It may be mentioned here that Galadari

Cement Industry at a Glance

(Rs. in million)

Name	Asbestos	Gharibwal	Mustelkam	Javedan	Zeal Pak
Annual General Meeting	14.12.82	30.12.82	30.12.82	23.12.82	26.12.82
Year Ending	30.06.82	30.06.82	30.06.82	30.06.82	30.06.82
Year of Listing	1960	1962	1963	1962	1957
Paid-up Capital	85.02	34.45	92.40	88.00	39.60
Free Reserves & Surplus	60.43	25.82	42.66	2.17	72.11
Net Worth	145.45	60.27	135.06	90.17	111.71
Fixed Assets (at cost)	59.59	159.67	627.81	599.73	269.93
Capital work in progress	0.18	1.42	9.48	---	11.22
Depreciation	32.80	99.85	137.81	140.71	177.20
Investment (at cost)	0.40	---	0.80	0.65	28.72
LOANS:					
a) Secured Long Term	---	2.50	316.92	113.98	25.50
b) Bank Overdraft	---	---	---	---	---
c) Debenture	---	---	0.67	0.17	---
Current Assets	147.36	136.26	156.28	146.85	213.30
Current Liabilities	26.55	126.42	196.08	143.41	175.07
Sales	152.63	230.59	308.46	445.82 @	363.05
Cost of Sales	89.37	200.29	242.05	206.37 *	328.28
Pretax Profit	61.06	27.61	14.26	3.60	23.12
Provision for taxation	29.46	17.71	---	---	11.25
RATIOS:					
a) Cost of Sales to Sales %	58.55	86.85	78.47	46.28	90.42
b) Pretax Profit to Sales %	40.00	11.97	4.62	0.80	6.36
c) Pretax Profit to Net Worth %	41.98	45.81	10.55	3.99	20.69
d) Debt/Equity	---	3/97	70/30	53/47	18/92
Paid-up Value per share Rs.	10.00	50.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Earning after tax per share Rs.	3.71	14.36	1.54	0.40	2.99
Price Earning Ratio	5:1	5:1	5:1	---	6:1
Dividend per share	0.80	10.00	1.00	---	2.25
Bonus Ratio	2:5	1:10	---	---	---
Retained Earning per share Rs.	7.10	37.47	4.61	0.24	18.20
Break-up Value per share	17.10	87.47	14.61	10.24	28.20
Market Rate as on 8.11.1982	17.70	78.00	8.05	8.00	18.50
Dividend Yield %	4.51	2.56	12.42	5.00	13.51
Current Ratio	5.55:1	1.07:1	0.79:1	1.02:1	1.20:1
SHARE PERFORMANCE:					
a) Highest	28.25	73.00	8.80	9.25	18.85
b) Lowest	17.60	56.00	5.75	4.00	16.25

@ excluding excise duty Rs. 239.46 million

* excluding subsidy of Rs. 59.88 million.

Brothers had earlier bought substantial shares of PSL. Their financial institution, the Dubai Bank Limited is also operating Pakistan.

Thatta Cement Plant

A Rs. 600 million cement plant, first of latest pre-heater technology (dry process) with an annual capacity of 300,000 tonnes has been commissioned in Thatta on August 15. The plant, being a part of an overall development programme of the cement industry by the State Cement Corporation has been based on the use of lime stone from Makli Hills

in Thatta district to produce 300,000 tonnes of grey cement and 30,000 tonnes slag cement based on the slag procured from Pakistan Steel mills. The foreign exchange component is being provided by Messrs OEC of Japan.

The slag utilization component of the mills has been fabricated by the Heavy Mechanical Complex, Taxila, another state enterprise. The completion of Thatta cement project will be followed by the completion of two new more projects during the 1982-83, the Dandot cement project, (Jehlum) and Kohat cement project each with an installed capacity of producing 300,000 tonnes annually.

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BRIEFS

VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS--...What had become an order of the day in institutions of higher learning in Karachi has lately infected the Punjab university as well. While only an impartial official enquiry into the latest incident of violent clashes between members of two groups of students will unfold which of the two groups was responsible for the trouble and adjudicate on the conflicting statements of these rival parties, it cannot be gainsaid that academic atmosphere in the Punjab metropolis is being greatly vitiated by such ugly happenings. The chairman of the Alliance has said that a lecturer of the university was beaten up by workers of the rival group when he tried to mediate and prevent escalation of violence. His statement makes painful reading. Time was when teachers were shown due respect by the student community and their words were heeded. All that appears to have been discarded and thrown to the winds as an ancient tradition unworthy of an age when students have taken to militancy. The relevant authorities would be failing in their duty if they do not take prompt and stern notice of such incidents and do all in their power to restore order and discipline in educational institutions. These institutions are temples of higher learning and unless effective steps are taken to protect their sanctity, it could do grievous harm to the cause of education itself. --THE MUSLIM, Feb. 26. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 3 Mar 83 p 34]

POLITICAL DIALOGUE ADVISED--Today, there is ideological confrontation in the country and because of the ban on political activities, leaders of the Right and Left are unable to guide the people on any issue. However, attempts are being made to promote Right-wing politics in the country and this is perhaps the reason for the postponement of elections because this type of (Right-wing) politics is not acceptable to the majority of the people who prefer democracy to theocracy. In the light of all this, it would not be wrong to say that if the new political structure (which according to most circles is not needed) is against their democratic nature, the holding of general elections will become difficult because it (the political structure) will not be accepted by the political parties. In our view, before preparing ground for elections, it is necessary that a conference is held for consultations with various political parties and the new political structure (if at all needed) evolved in the light of recommendations of the conference so that all differences are sorted out and the process of the restoration of democracy can take place in a spirit of give and take. --MAGHRABI PAKISTAN, Feb 17. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 24 Feb 83 p 34]

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